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President Ramiz Alia Signs 'Law on Land'

AU2307195191 Tirana ATA in English 0955 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Tirana, July 23 (ATA)—The president of the Republic of Albania, Ramiz Alia, signed on July 22 "The Law on Land," endorsed recently by the People's Assembly. The content of the law is also published in the press.

It stresses among others that the land in the Republic of Albania is divided into agricultural plots sown to crops, fruit plantations, vineyards and olive groves, forests, pastures, and lawns and non-agricultural plots. It is stressed that the state grants land to physical and juridical persons, who enjoy the right of ownership and all the rights foreseen by this law.

The law does not recognize the previous ownership, either its size and boundaries prior to collectivization when granting lands to juridical persons as a property and for use. The juridical or physical persons who possess or receive agricultural land as its owner or to use it for a set period of time, are obliged to use it only for agricultural goals. Every juridical and physical person who is granted land for use and does not exploit it for agricultural or livestock aims during a year, is deprived of the right to use it.

The law points out that the agricultural plot which is owned according to the law is inherited on the basis of legal provisions for heritage to be endorsed.

The "Law on Land" stresses that the foreign juridical and physical persons are granted ground for construction on hire. The aim and time of using it is defined by special contract. The rent of the ground is set on the basis of the aim of using it, the place it is situated and other economic conditions according to criteria set by the Council of Ministers.

Alia Receives EEC's Andreissen, Delegation

AU2307192291 Tirana ATA in English 0758 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Tirana, July 23 (ATA)—The president of the Republic of Albania, Ramiz Alia, received at the Palace of Brigades on July 22 afternoon the delegation of the European Community, led by the vice president of the Commission of the European Community, Mr. Frans Andreissen.

On this occasion, President Alia informed the delegation of the European Community on the course of democratic processes occurring in Albania and the difficulties the government of the country's stability is facing with in order to overcome the difficult economic situation the country is in. He valued the readiness of the European Community to help Albania with food articles and medicaments as well as with technical assistance.

On his part, Mr. Frans Andreissen valued the courageous steps for the complete establishment of democracy in Albania and stressed the readiness of the European Community and the group of the 24 to back up reforms in our country.

They in the meeting exchanged opinions also on the new situation created in Europe especially on the situation in Yugoslavia. Both parties underlined the need of finding out a political and democratic solution based on the will of all the Yugoslav peoples without exception and according to the norms and principles of international law.

Attending the meeting was also Mehill Marku, vice minister of foreign affairs, and Gjergj Konda, vice minister of economy.

Bufi Receives EEC Delegation

AU2307192491 Tirana ATA in English 0803 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Tirana, July 23 (ATA)—On July 22, the chairman of the Council of Ministers, Ylli Bufi, received the delegation of the European Community Commission, headed by the vice-president of this commission, Mr. Frans Andreissen.

The Albanian premier highly assessed the visit of the delegation of the European Community as a new important step to consolidate cooperation between the two parties in the political and economic aspect. Later he spoke of the difficulties the National Stability Government is encountering in normalizing the difficult situation. The economic reforms we are applying cannot be carried out without foreign investments and, in this aspect we judge that a special aid might be offered by the European Community. The sooner the granting of investments, the faster the rates of the economic reform in the rural and urban zones. The premier Ylli Bufi expressed the readiness of the Albanian Government to exchange ambassadors with the European Community as soon as possible.

The vice-president of the European Community Commission, Mr. Frans Andreissen, considered the visit of the delegation of this commission in Albania as an historic mission. The European Community is determined to contribute to the important promotion of closer economic and trade cooperation. The political condition for such a cooperation is already fulfilled, because Albania is a CSCE member. He emphasized that the group of the 24 is working out schemes for concrete actions in this respect.

Both parties talked on the possibility of the professional and technical aid with experts for Albania, where the European Community might play a first-rate role. They discussed extensively on the course of events in Yugoslavia and the positive influence of the European Community on them. Mr. Frans Andreissen informed the Albanian premier that the European Community has

decided to accord Albania a foodstuff aid to the tune of dozens of thousands of tons of grain, that should be adopted by the European Parliament.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers, Ylli Bufi, thanked Mr. Andreissen for his personal contribution to the process of Albania's admission to the CSCE and to the establishment of diplomatic relations between Albania and the European Community. He asked also Mr. Andreissen to convey to the president of the European Community Commission his greetings as well as the invitation to visit Albania.

On the same day, the vice president of the European Community was received by the vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, Gramoz Pashko.

Kapllani, Cabiri Meet Andreissen

AU2307192991 Tirana ATA in English 0811 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Tirana, July 23 (ATA)—The minister of foreign affairs, Muhamet Kapllani, received the vice-president of the European Community Commission, Frans Andreissen on July 22.

The minister Muhamet Kapllani appreciated the visit of Mr. Andreissen as the first of this level and which takes place right after the working visit paid a few days ago by the group of special envoys of the European Community, which got closely acquainted with the economic situation, the processes of democratic reforms as well as the problems Albania is actually facing.

The Albanian foreign minister underscored the importance our country devotes to the European Community, as one of the basic structures of the future Europe and expressed the confidence for a fruitful cooperation of Albania with this community.

The vice-president of the European Community Commission, Frans Andreissen, assessed the democratic processes that are occurring in Albania and emphasized that the European Community will assist our country to overcome the current difficulties. They discussed also on problems of the current international policy.

On the same day too, the minister of foreign economic relations, Ylli Cabiri received the vice-president of the European Community Commission, Frans Andreissen.

During the reception it was spoken on the targets of our country in the economic relations with the European Community countries, underscoring the concrete possibilities to extend this cooperation. The Albanian party explained the measures to be adopted in the framework of the economic reform in the field of economic relations with foreign countries and of foreign trade, as well as the work carried out to prepare the necessary legislation to urge and back up the foreign investments.

They agreed on the conclusion of an agreement of economic cooperation.

In honour of the delegation of the European Community, headed by the vice-president of the commission of this community, Mr. Frans Andreissen, the deputy premier Dr. Gramoz Pashko gave a dinner in "Dajti" Hotel.

On July 22 in the afternoon, Mr. Andreissen, vice president of the Commission of the European Community left Albania.

Bufi Meets Representatives of Political Parties

AU2307195591 Tirana ATA in English 0946 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Tirana, July 23 (ATA)—On 21.7.1991, at the seat of the Council of Ministers, the premier Ylli Bufi had a meeting with representatives of the political parties concerning some problems of the current situation at home and the measures to be adopted to cope with them.

Despite the grave situation the country is in at present, the premier underscored in his speech, recently the demands of various groups of working people for further wage increase and improvement of the working and living conditions have increased a great deal. In some cases they assume the character of an ultimatum, down to go on strike. The premier underscored further on that such a situation cannot be coped only with efficient measures by the government. It is also indispensable the commitment of the political forces, trade unions and of all the working people. The government is of the opinion that the alternative to cope with this situation is the implementation of the economic reform. Therefore it is involved in preparing the respective legislation which opens wide scope to privatisation, the introduction at faster rates of the foreign investments. It is necessary for the central organs and particularly the organs of the local power, to adopt measures and act concretely for the privatization in such sectors as those of trade, social food, public services to the small industries that are linked with the people's supply.

The creation of the organs of the local pluralistic power, which is under way in all districts these days, no doubt will put in motion all the links of the power and economy in the grass root. But, the premier underlined, solution of all these problems calls for a direct commitment of all the political forces and trade unions.

The representatives of the political parties supported the activity of the government of the country's stability, especially the intensive work it has made in the aspect of legislation. They stated that they back up the government through their consensus and opposed the old actions and thinking, which lead to destabilization and social conflicts. The government of the country's stability, they underlined, is the only possible political solution in the conditions of the rather difficult actual situation.

The representatives of the political parties backed up also the activity of the Council of Ministers regarding the supply of the people with the necessary food items, they

demanded the consolidation of the public order to guarantee a quiet life for the people, the normalization of the border regime, adoption of immediate measures to go quicker towards privatization, the acceleration of the rates of restructuring and reorganization of the state administrations.

Assembly Discusses Bill on Political Parties

AU2307195291 Tirana ATA in English 0942 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Tirana, July 23 (ATA)—On July 22 afternoon, the People's Assembly began its proceedings with the draft law "On Political Parties."

This draft law has been worked out again by the Commission of Laws and that of Defence of the Human Rights and Ethnic Minorities bearing in mind the real reflection of the political parties, their functioning, the demands to run the country so that they be different from the political associations.

Then representatives of the parliamentary group of the Socialist Party, of the Democratic Party and Omonia Organization spoke on the content of this draft law.

Then the deputies endorsed the draft law in principle and started discussing on its articles. In the yesterday's sitting 6 articles were endorsed. They stress among the others that the political parties are union of citizens on voluntary basis in compliance with joint ideas, convictions and views, that the (?political institutions are) an integral part of a free and democratic system of running, that political parties resort to democratic means and methods to reach their goals, etc.

The Assembly will continue its proceedings today before noon to examine the other articles of this draft law.

Zhelev: Media Could Cause 'Country To Explode'

AU2307155391 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 18 Jul 91 pp 1,2

[Mitko Bozhkov report]

[Text] At its meeting held on 17 July, the Radio and Television Commission was told that on 16 July President Zhelyu Zhelev declared to representatives of the political forces that the television and the radio could cause the country to explode. According to the report, the president stressed that the necessary steps must be taken to ensure that radio and television start to genuinely take the state institutions into consideration.

It was mentioned that Mr. Zhelev made the following statement: "Individual persons and groups of people cannot make their own policy, given all their sympathies and support for one of the political forces. I state this quite plainly, for otherwise we will have no state institutions, we will have no state policy."

According to Mr. Zhelev, the question regarding Podkrepa and its presence in radio and television remained open. "Sooner or later, this question should be resolved, because a secondary politicization is taking place of institutions that we have depoliticized, a development that is far from harmless, especially in situations such as we are now experiencing," the president was reported to have pointed out at the above-mentioned meeting.

Krustyu Goranov, cochairman of the commission, read a letter from about 30 National Assembly deputies expressing their bewilderment over the fact that on the "Response" ["Otzvuk"] program, Mr. Asen Agov behaved like an investigator in his interview with Prime Minister Dimitur Popov, and that untrue claims and totally unconfirmed rumors were circulated during the interview.

It was made known that Mr. Agov, chief of the News Editing Department, and his deputy Mr. Aleksandur Staykov decided not to transmit on the central television news review program "Around the World and at Home" ["Po sveta i u nas"] the speeches made by the leaders of the main parliamentary groups following the adoption of the Constitution. I telephoned the News Editing Department personally and asked for these speeches to be included in the program, but no notice was taken of my instruction, Mr. Ognyan Saparev explained.

A new totalitarian phenomenon is clearly emerging, namely a monopoly of the person who broadcasts the news, and this cannot be allowed within the framework of state television and state radio, said Mr. Chavdar Kyuranov. I accuse the Bulgarian Television and Bulgarian Radio of having cast a stone at democracy and statehood, Mr. Anzhel Vagenstayn added. Mr. Stoycho Stoychev asked whether the leaders of Bulgarian Television and Bulgarian Radio can win control over the explosive material in the two national institutions. Mr. Aleksandur Vladkov reiterated the thought, already expressed at a previous session of the commission, that two madmen, two muddleheaded people can easily set the country on fire, by utilizing the tool of the national microphone.

The meeting also discussed a brand new current example—when Khorizont reporter Fani Chudzhumova invited citizens on the national radio to come to Aleksandur Battenberg Square in order to show their support for the human chain formed around the BSP headquarters. Aleksandur Karakachanov, mayor of Sofia, explained that this action had taken place without the necessary permission being obtained according to the law. Mr. Karakachanov suggested that henceforth no publicity should be given to protests that were not officially permitted by the special department of the Sofia City People's Council.

The commission approved the idea that the chairmen of Bulgarian Television and Bulgarian Radio should issue a special address to listeners and viewers (or make some other form of announcement), declaring that these two institutions support social peace and are against its destabilization.

Zhelev Statement to New Creativity Union Leaders

AU2307173591 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 1520 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Statement by President Zhelyu Zhelev, at meeting with leadership of newly established "Creativity" Trade Union, held in Sofia on 23 July—recorded]

[Text] Today President Zhelyu Zhelev met the chairmen and founders of the Confederative Council of the "Creativity" Trade Union Organization, which rallies 17 creative, professional, and trade union organizations in the intellectual sphere.

The chairmen of the creative unions of architects, journalists, scientists, writers, translators, composers, artists, film workers, actors, musical performers, and dancers attended the meeting. They submitted their demands in a memorandum, which they handed over to the president. In the memorandum they insist that a trade union representative of their own organization be nominated as an official delegate to the negotiations of the tripartite commission with a view to contributing to a constructive dialogue with the government.

The most important problem, namely the question of subsidizing creative arts and intellectual work was also raised at the meeting. Let us hear part of President Zhelev's address in opening the meeting.

[Begin Zhelev recording] We all realize that the situation of our intelligentsia is becoming increasingly complicated and that this group in our society is confronted with great difficulties. The transition to the market economy is particularly harsh for all cultural institutions in which the intellectuals are involved.

Therefore, a talk such as ours today is more than necessary. It is high time to realize what should be done, what is urgently required, and what we can really contribute to the resolution of the problem. I intend to address an appeal, which I hope I may do as early as this week, to our state-owned and private companies and to foreign companies urging them to establish a special fund for subsidies in support of the intelligentsia. It will not be a radical solution of all the problems affecting our cultural institutions, which will be obliged to face and cope with the difficulties of the change and to suffer all the hardships of the transition to the market economy. Nevertheless, the difficult period of reorganization and of reorientation requires such a form of assistance until new sponsors have been found, until a new system and new methods of providing financial resources in conformity with market economy conditions have been ensured, because in the meantime we may lose our young intellectuals. Too many of them have left the country. This is already dangerous and it may be that at the very moment when we are ready to start the major reforms in the economic and political spheres, the young, talented, enterprising, ambitious, and energetic people of the new generation will be absent from the country. [end recording]

This is what President Zhelev said. I can add that today on the same occasion he was presented with a membership card for the Scientists Union.

Army Chief Minchev Denies Conflict With Zhelev

AU2307143291 Sofia FAKS in Bulgarian 17 Jul 91 p 1

[Nayden Nikolov report]

[Text] There is no disagreement between myself and the president of the republic and I have no intention of resigning, Colonel General Radnyu Minchev (63), chief of the Bulgarian Army's General Staff, declared last night in an interview with FAKS.

The general confirmed that he has no differences of opinion whatsoever with Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, who is commander in chief of the Bulgarian Armed Forces, in connection with his own insistence on military clauses being included in the new treaty between Bulgaria and the USSR. General Minchev added that the reports published in yesterday's issues of the dailies 24 CHASA and 6 PLYUS are the responsibility of the newspapers in question.

The scandal, which is similar to the recent incident that occurred in the Soviet leadership and related to the conflict between Gorbachev and KGB Chief Kryuchkov, could be brought to an end either with General Minchev's resignation or, more importantly, with the president of the republic asking for Minchev's resignation, as one of his colleagues, also a general, pointed out. I am disappointed with the statements of people who hold important state posts but are still subscribing to outdated ideas and assessing our new relations with the Soviet Union from the point of view of their party bias, Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev stated in a NARODNA ARMIYA interview two days ago. The scandal had its repercussions on the views of the diplomatic missions of certain countries accredited to Bulgaria.

General Radnyu Minchev's style of work as of one Bulgaria's Army leaders has been the subject of numerous articles published by FAKS.

Vulkov Signs Protocol on Cooperation With Israel

AU2307173791 Sofia BTA in English 1650 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Sofia, July 23 (BTA)—This morning Mr. Viktor Vulkov, Bulgaria's minister of foreign affairs, and his Israeli counterpart, Mr. David Levi, signed a protocol on cooperation between the two countries' diplomatic institutions. The working meeting between the two ministers was assessed as fruitful.

Mr. Vulkov invited Mr. Levi to visit Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian foreign minister expressed his satisfaction at visiting Israel in a period which would probably be regarded as a historic one "because the moment when peace will be finally established in the Middle East is coming."

Mr. Vulkov had a half-an-hour talk with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Upon his arrival in Israel Mr. Vulkov said that one of the main goals of his visit was to make the necessary arrangements for the forthcoming visit of the Israeli premier to Bulgaria. During Mr. Shamir's visit to Bulgaria, due at the end of August this year, the sides are expected to finalize and sign a trade and economic agreement and to speed up the signing of a bilateral agreement on legal assistance.

Quarters close to the Israeli prime minister said that during the talks the Israeli side made again an inquiry about the status and representation of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Bulgaria and about Bulgaria's relations with the Arab countries.

After his meeting with Mr. Shamir, Minister Vulkov said that the two countries' relations are developing quickly despite the long break.

KNSB Memorandum, Agreement With Podkrepa

AU2407083891 Sofia TRUD in Bulgarian 18 Jul 91 pp 1, 3

["Memorandum" of the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria to the Bulgarian Government and "Joint Agreement" between the Podkrepa Labor Confederation and the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions—both signed in Sofia on 16 July 1991]

[Text] Memorandum of the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria [KNSB]:

Gentlemen, the government to which you have the honor of belonging was established at the will of the political forces represented in the National Assembly on the basis of a common consensus, which they reached with the assistance of the president of the republic, who acted as a mediator. The trade unions supported your measures related to the stabilization of the country's finances and of the market situation, and the measures promoting the economic reform as the only method of overcoming the crisis. Thanks to the trade unions, and to the KNSB in particular, the social and civic peace in the country has been preserved over the last seven months. We are the only social partner, apart from the government, whose signature under the recently concluded agreement on the second stage of the reform has never been questioned.

Political tension has been growing over the last days in our capital. This time the recently adopted Constitution is the object of discord. Appeals for a general strike are heard. Attempts are being made to take advantage of the inevitable difficulties of the reform as an argument for the election campaign. All this influences the government's behavior and jeopardizes its resolve to start the second stage of the economic reform, encouraging it to renounce the responsibility for the future of the reform.

The KNSB Executive Committee categorically reminds the ministers and the prime minister himself that it is their duty to take immediate action for the application of the Agreement on Social Peace signed on 13 June 1991. Mr. Popov's cabinet, as the initiator of the agreement, is responsible for its implementation to its partners, to the nation, to the international financial institutions, and to the European community. We insist on the following demands:

1. The necessary conditions for real negotiations on the new wage schedule should be established by 25 July 1991. It is the government's obligation to determine the legitimate status of the employers and to provide for their training, as well as to complete the decentralization and demonopolization of the companies.

2. The financial-economic situation of the large state companies and the question of their debts should be clarified within the same schedule. The Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Services is expected to release full information on its intentions concerning the restructuring and financial stabilization of the major companies and basic economic branches which are placed under its jurisdiction. Along with this, the ministry should publicize the steps taken by the managements of the companies in connection with sales of property, of products, ore deposits, licenses, and others.

3. The land commissions should be promptly developed and the practical application of the Land Law should be speeded up. The necessary prerequisites for normal agricultural activities during the current season should be guaranteed.

4. The second series of protection measures should be enforced by the end of July 1991. In this connection the necessary additional financial resources for the destitute, for workers' and students' canteens, for pensioners, invalids, and for the permanently unemployed should be provided.

The failure to fulfill any of the aforementioned demands, which are part of the Social Peace Agreement, will be considered a gross violation of the agreements reached, with all negative consequences involved.

Joint Agreement between the KNSB and the Podkrepa Labor Confederation:

A wide range of questions was discussed at a meeting between the Podkrepa Labor Confederation and the KNSB Executive Committee. The discussion touched upon the activities of the trade unions in the current political and economic situation and the attitude to the government as a whole. The possibility of joint actions during the elections was also discussed. Joint working groups on two major ranges of questions were established.

A package of urgent tasks was set up for the government.

The procedures related to the legalization of trade union organizations were coordinated.

A number of other important subjects, such as the promotion of a spirit of mutual tolerance between the two organizations, which should extend to their publications, and so forth were discussed. A contact group on dealing with questions of trade union property was also set up.

TU Chairmen Comment on Agreement

AU2407091291

[Editorial Report] Sofia TRUD in Bulgarian on 18 July 1991 carries on page 2, two interviews by Sonya Gulubova of 360 words each, with Dr. Konstantin Trenchev, chairman of the Podkrepa Labor Confederation, and with Prof. Krustyu Petkov, chairman of the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria [KNSB], given in Sofia on 16 July 1991, following the signing of an agreement between the two major Bulgarian trade union organizations—the KNSB and the Podkrepa Labor Confederation.

Both trade union leaders admit in their two separate interviews that relations between their two organizations have changed for the better and that differences between them were discussed in a constructive spirit at their 16 July meeting.

Dr. Konstantin Trenchev states in this connection: "Our meeting was a logical continuation of trade union processes under way in our country. Differences between us are related to details and methods of work, but our goals are common." He further points out that "the KNSB should free itself from the negative inheritance of the past in order to develop as a European-type organization. Within the KNSB several modernization processes

are under way, which we welcome with satisfaction. The fact that we participated in the meeting shows that many things have changed within the KNSB."

Both leaders stress the fact that they have eliminated some of their controversies related to the sources of income of their respective organizations. Trenchev remarks in this context: "We eliminated some misunderstandings caused by lack of information and by certain ideological cliches. The myth about the enormous amounts of money allegedly granted to Podkrepa by Western countries, on the one hand, and our claims about the KNSB property, on the other hand, were dispelled. We carefully examined the KNSB memorandum and we agree with most of the evaluations expressed in it."

Asked whether the meeting between KNSB and Podkrepa was of a "conspiratorial nature," as rumors claim, Professor Krustyu Petkov answers: "As a matter of fact we 'conspired' for a long time on the economic reform." He further adds: "You should not believe rumors. However, we discussed numerous questions related to our bilateral relations and I am very pleased with our talks. We learned how to overcome various internal conflicts and misunderstandings between trade union organizations in the enterprises and how to proceed in establishing the legitimate nature of trade unions. We also found out that there is a solution for the 'big' controversial issue, namely for the question of the KNSB's property."

Prof. Krustyu Petkov points out at the end of the interview: "Our meeting was actually an acknowledgment of existing realities, an official mutual recognition. Under the pressure of the existing circumstances, the KNSB and the Podkrepa Labor Confederation are forced to cooperate."

Podkrepa Denies Receiving Soviet 'Pocket Money'

AU2307131391 Sofia BTA in English 1216 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Sofia, July 23 (BTA)—In a letter sent to the mass media the president of the Podkrepa Labour Confederation, Dr. Konstantin Trenchev, says that had he got four million dollars, he would topple down communism not only in Bulgaria, but in the Soviet Union, too. In actual fact this is his reply to an announcement made by the "DEN" paper, which all dailies refer to today, that Podkrepa has received this amount from a Soviet bank as "pocket money."

Yet Trenchev does not rule out the possibility of the money having been sent to the Podkrepa cash-box, stating that "anybody could credit some money to somebody's account, for example in the Easter Islands, without the beneficiary even having an idea about it." I think, the doctor goes on to say in his letter, that some political forces are ready to pay even more to discredit me and the Podkrepa Labour Confederation which lately has become the major opposition organization in our wretched state.

Dr. Trenchev points out "responsibly" that to this date he has no knowledge of any other bank accounts of Podkrepa except the official ones.

BZNS News Conference on Elections, Unification

AU2307184891 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 1520 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Svoboda Nedeva report on news conference of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union held in Sofia—live]

[Text] I just returned from the weekly news conference of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union [BZNS]. The main speakers at the briefing pointed out that the reunification of the BZNS should not be regarded as an arithmetic sum, but as a process of revival involving the most Bulgarian of all parties. This is how the participants in the news conference introduced the subject of the reunification of Agrarian forces, which is expected to take place within a few days at the National Unifying Conference scheduled for Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 July.

The political agreement among the Agrarian forces should further specify the details of the reunification.

Ivan Glushkov explained to journalists his reasons for not signing the Constitution. We should not dramatize this fact, he said. My approach is one of principle, I was not afraid of my action, but the BZNS is simply not a Bolshevik party and we did not adopt any advance decisions about whether we should vote individually or collectively on the Constitution, or on the other laws. Naturally, everyone is responsible to his own conscience and to the Bulgarian voter. These are the democratic principles of the BZNS organization, according to Ivan Glushkov. The Constitution should have been a factor of unification for our nation, while the opposite happened, it introduced a split in our midst, considering that some of us contested the Constitution while others are defending it. This was the main reason for Mr. Glushkov's refusal to sign the Constitution. Naturally, he does not exclude the absence of a sufficient moral quorum.

Actually no one claims that the document is perfect, Glushkov said. However, there is a chance to improve it.

It was explained at the news conference that the issue of the Constitution is not the most important one. Elections and the election victory are more important to us today. We regard them as guarantees for our nation's prosperity. The opposite stand would be a great loss for the BZNS, because the BZNS will be part of the united opposition.

The electoral systems were also discussed. According to the speakers at the news conference, it would be appropriate to introduce different voting ballots within the united opposition, so that the constituents may have more freedom of choice.

It was pointed out at the briefing that the proportional electoral system is the most just system and that it will most effectively reflect the people's will. According to Aleksandur Dimitrov, for the time being the proportional system guarantees the pluralistic nature of society and is likely to reduce contradictions and guarantee a peaceful election campaign.

Mr. Georgi Khinchev added that if the BZNS should unite and become a more powerful organization it would consolidate its positions of confidence among Bulgarian peasants and would encourage them to break away from the prison of fear that is still oppressing them.

Aleksandur Dimitrov added that the economic nomenklatura in the rural areas is strongly established and the BZNS is the only political force capable of resisting the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] in those areas. The BZNS is the political factor likely to dismantle the economic nomenklatura on a local scale, and if not at the upcoming elections, then at least in the future ones the BZNS is likely to restore its stronghold in the Bulgarian villages.

What should a future leadership of the united Agrarian Union look like? The unifying conference will provide an answer to this question. The new leadership is expected to be provisional and will later be confirmed at the congress. This leadership, however, should have the confidence of the entire Agrarian community. It must be a prestigious group that is expected to begin its work under the leadership of respectable public figures who should create the image of the union and worthily present it to the nation.

Last, but not least, I would like to point out that the Nikola Petkov BZNS and part of its membership do not intend to participate in the unification process. [words indistinct].

BSP News Briefing Discusses Assembly's Work

AU2307175891 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 1720 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Nina Spasova report on news briefing of Bulgarian Socialist Party in Sofia on 23 July—live]

[Text] What kind of bills should the National Assembly pass and how should legislative work proceed as of today? These were the questions discussed at today's news briefing of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP].

According to National Assembly Deputy Krasimir Premyanov, the aforementioned questions should be settled on the basis of a timetable for the National Assembly's work. The timetable should be an effective method of restricting election campaign propaganda in the legislature to a minimum. The president's proposal, namely that the issue of the electoral system should be discussed at the plenary sessions, was described as sensible and feasible at the BSP news briefing.

The BSP insists on an electoral system that is likely to provide optimal conditions for candidates from small parties. Such opportunities are not provided either by the absolute majority, or by the absolute proportional system. The mixed system is familiar to Bulgarian voters. Therefore Mr. Filip Bokov pleaded for it. He declared that so far the only argument used against this system [by the opposition] was that the BSP won the last elections on the basis of the mixed system.

The BSP election slogans have not been specified so far, while its platform will apply to our entire society and should especially be addressed to the large group of people who are united by (?joint actions). This was declared at the news briefing.

Several minutes were devoted to the subject of radio and television. According to Anzhel Wagenshtayn a campaign to totally mislead the Bulgarian public was promoted over the last weekend by the Khorizont Radio Program regarding the real situation of radio and television networks in democratic countries. According to Wagenshtayn, Khorizont had informed the people that no one is interfering in the work of radio and television in western Germany, while legislative and public control over such media institutions exist in that country. Mr. Wagenshtayn supported his arguments by citing from the laws on radio and television in the FRG.

Last, but not least, in reporting on the BSP news briefing we should cite one question and its answer mentioned on the occasion, namely whether the BSP is afraid of Minister of Finance Kostov. Dimitur Yonchev answered: It is rather the other way around.

SDS Group of 39 Returns to National Assembly

AU2307172291 Sofia BTA in English 1635 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Sofia, July 23 (BTA)—The radical-minded MP's of the Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) [SDS] of the so-called Group-39 who boycotted parliament on May 14 insisting on early parliamentary elections and went on hunger strike on July 10, today made their comeback to the plenary sessions hall.

Today it was announced that their group, which was called UDF-National Movement, is the parliamentary faction of the Union of Democratic Forces. This caused discontent among their colleagues of the other parliamentary groups of UDF, which was increased by the group's statement that UDF is represented in parliament solely by the MP's who have not signed the constitution.

The faction's floor-leaders are Mr. Stoyan Ganev and Mr. Stefan Savov, its spokesmen—Mr. Yordan Vasilev and Mr. Aleksandur Yordanov.

The radicals came out with a declaration in which it is demanded to pass the new election act first. An official proposal for it was also submitted. The radicals demand to adopt the act on the strength of which the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) and the other formal organizations of the time of totalitarianism will have to return their property to the state. The radicals moved for the revocation of the decision of the parliamentary Committee on Radio and Television according to which a special commission is to assess the fitness of radio and television journalist for work in the national information institutions. In the radicals' view this decision actually amounts to imposing censorship on the mass media.

The radicals' declaration caused discontent in the plenary hall, mostly among the other MP's of UDF who reminded them how peacefully parliament had worked while the radicals were on strike.

Today the problem of the legislative programme of parliament was raised as well. BSP proposed that the MP's should adopt a programme for their further legislative activity. Tomorrow the Bureau of the National Assembly and representatives of the political forces will consider the problem. According to the interim constitutional regulations, first of all parliament should pass the bill of parliamentary and local authorities elections, the constitutional court bill and the supreme court council bill. Today the chairman of the Legislative Committee, Mr. Aleksandur Dzherov, added some other priorities: the act of the country's administrative and territorial division, the local administration act and the bill amending the political parties act.

SDS Parties Reject Coordinating Council

AU2307200091 Sofia BTA in English 1850 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Sofia, July 23 (BTA)—The Parliamentary Bulgarian Social Democratic Party (BSDP), the Ecoglasnost Political Club, the Green Party, the Federation of Democracy Clubs, the Democratic Party in the City of Plovdiv and the Union of the Victims of Repressions will no longer be represented by the National Coordinating Council (NCC) of the Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) ... "Until the problems in the NCC are solved or until the six organizations, which signed an electoral agreement on July 9, set up joint bodies," it is said in a decision received in the BTA.

Reason: The NCC prevents some of its members from taking an active part in its work, does not admit the leaders of certain organizations to its meetings and drives away MP's simply because they signed the country's new Constitution, the decision reads.

NSDP Criticizes Dimitrov's Leadership of SDS

AU2407102791 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Text] At their news conference today, the leaders of the New Social Democratic Party [NSDP] announced that they are preparing to hold a national conference at the end of August, at which political decisions will be adopted from the viewpoint of classical European social democracy. They will seek contacts with those parties and organizations that are close to their views, our reporter told us.

At the moment the NSDP is checking to find out who are its own people, that is, who is with them, and who not. However, it was also announced at the news conference that even Grandma Vanga [a famous contemporary soothsayer] could not predict with whom the NSDP will form a coalition.

It was stated today that, thanks to the purity of its credo, the NSDP is not afraid of isolation, and it has confidence in Stefan Savov and Yanko Yankov, the Radical Democrats and the Union of Nonmembers of Parties. According to them, the situation in the Union of Democratic Forces [SDS] and in its National Coordinating Council makes it necessary for Filip Dimitrov to assume a more centralized leadership, and he should either take more vigorous actions or resign from his post, otherwise the mental pressure on him will be too great.

Liberal Democracy Club Founded in Sofia

AU2307155591 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 18 Jul 91 p 2

[Violeta Simeonova report]

[Text] Georgi Mishev, Mariya Boykikeva, Koprinka Chervenkova, Marko Ganchev, Vili Tsankov, Elenko Bozhkov, and others have established a Liberal Democracy Club in Sofia. Their reason was that the Sofia club had expelled Petko Simeonov from its city organization. He has also been removed from the "World for Everyone" Foundation. This was made known at the news conference held by the Federation of Democracy Clubs on 17 July.

The Liberal Democracy Club will be a member of the Federation of Democracy Clubs, and on behalf of its founders will insist that the federation confirms the self-exclusion of clubs whose representatives have contravened the federation's organizational regulations.

Filip Dimitrov sent a letter to Petko Simeonov in which he asked for the foreign currency account, details of which have recently become known, to be transferred to the name of the Union of Democratic Forces at the Foreign Trade Bank. Petko Simeonov has made the suggestion that the Western donors might be asked to which organizations the money should be allocated.

The supporters of democracy also attempted to launch an attack on Petko Simeonov yesterday. While the BSP headquarters was surrounded by a human chain, his car was kicked and banged.

Kozloduy Reconstruction Estimated at $1 Billion

AU2307193991 Sofia BTA in English 1834 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Sofia, July 23 (BTA)—"Bulgaria cannot afford to shut down the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant because the country will need 30 per cent of the value of the power plant which cost the state 5 billion dollars," Mr. Lyubomir Genov, chairman of the Power Generation Committee, told the press today.

Mr. Genov said that the IAEA and the World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO) would give Bulgaria a chance to solve the problems that had built up over the last 17 years at the Kozloduy Power Plant. Fifteen experts from the WANO will arrive early in August to supervise the reconstruction of the reactors. Unit 1 will be shut down on August 15 and will start operation by the end of the year and unit 2 will be closed down on September 15 and will resume operation by the end of January 1992.

Bulgaria will receive a donation of 11 million ECU [European currency units] from the EC and another 15 ECU under the PHARE [Economic Reconstruction Aid for Poland and Hungary] programme to bring the power plant in line with international safety and operation requirements. The country will need a total of 1 billion U.S. dollars for the overall reconstruction of the plant.

Foreign Debt May Reach $20 Billion in 1996

AU2307155791 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 18 Jul 91 p 2

[DUMA PRESS report]

[Text] According to certain budget projections and forecasts, Bulgaria's foreign debt may reach $20 billion in 1996, Vasil Kolarov announced on 17 July at a joint meeting of the Economic and Budget Commissions in parliament. Mr. Kolarov explained that the information came from a foreign citizen.

Mariana Todorova, deputy minister of foreign economic relations, described this forecast as extremely likely. It depends on many things, Mrs. Todorova said, and cited the example of Hungary, where the situation is almost the same—they started with a foreign debt of $11 billion, which has now exceeded $20 billion.

Private Businesses To Receive U.S. Aid

AU2307133491 Sofia BTA in English 1115 GMT 23 Jul 91

["Exclusive" report by Georgi Bozhkov]

[Excerpts] Washington, July 23 (BTA) The U.S. Administration will grant five million dollars for the development of Bulgarian private business and farming in particular, it was announced here after Deputy Prime Minister Dimitur Ludzhev met with Vice President Dan Quayle.

The five million dollars are a contribution to establish a fund which has its analogues intended to aid Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. The U.S. Congress will explore opportunities to allocate Bulgaria another 50 million dollars. [passage omitted]

Deputy Prime Minister Dimitur Ludzhev expressed his satisfaction with the decision of the London summit of the seven major industrialized democracies to open their markets to goods from Eastern Europe, Bulgaria included. [passage omitted]

Carnogursky on Gabcikovo, Slovak Independence

LD2307140191 Bratislava Ceskoslovensky Rozhlas Radio Network in Slovak 1000 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Interview with Slovak Prime Minister Jan Carnogursky by Alica Bielikova at the Slovak Government building—live]

[Text] [Bielikova] Prime Minister Jan Carnogursky has just come from the debating chamber to our microphone so that we can begin the interview. Prime Minister, the government has agreed, as a temporary measure, with putting the Gabcikovo water project into operation on the territory of the CSFR. The Federal Government should discuss this on Thursday. What position do you expect?

[Carnogursky] First, the Slovak Government was acquainted with the report on the talks between the CSFR and Hungarian delegations that took place here in Bratislava last week. It approved the actions of our delegation at these talks. It also approved the state experts' report on putting the Gabcikovo water project into operation, and it adopted a resolution on this. According to this resolution by the Slovak Government, work will begin on putting Gabcikovo into operation as a temporarary solution, that is, only on the territory of the CSFR.

This decision of the Slovak Government is also only another partial decision on this matter, largely intentionally, because it reduces the alternatives for government discussion looked at until now, of which there were about six or eight at the beginning of this year. It reduces them roughly to two. This means that the decision remains whether the temporary solution on CSFR territory only will be the so-called canal type or delay type—these terms will mean more to environmentalists. The government will be making a decision on one of these two alternatives still in play, or possibly a combination of the two will be selected some time in October or November this year.

[Bielikova] How do you think the Federal Government will react? [Carnogursky] I hope that the Federal Government will confirm this decision of the Slovak Government, or rather, will make a similar decision; it is truly clear that from the ecological viewpoint, as well, it is more favorable to complete the Gabcikovo water works and put it into operation rather than leave it in the state it is in at present. As far as other aspects are concerned—shipping, security, environment, and even the protection of underground water reserves—all this unequivocally favors the completion of the Gabcikovo water works.

[Bielikova] Do you think this will give rise to some further demonstrations at the building site by some protesters?

[Carnogursky] Look, the government has a duty to ensure public order. The government is here to make decisions. It makes these decisions after detailed consideration, but once such a decision has been made, then it must put this decision into effect. Naturally, the government will continue its campaign to convince people that the decision we have adopted is the best of the decisions we can make on this issue.

[Bielikova] Prime Minister, your answer, or your statement, in the French daily LIBERATION, to the effect that the aim of Slovakia is to gain independence by the year 2000 and to enter the European Communities as a sovereign state, caused a considerable stir yesterday. As far as I know, you expressed this opinion some time ago and have not changed it or taken it back.

[Carnogursky] I must admit that I am surprised that this caused so much attention, that is one thing. The other thing is that last week I talked to the editor of LIBERATION—there was another French journalist present as well but I have not seen the final text of their article about their interview with me—and what has been published in our press is only a CTK report on this interview published in the French paper.

In the interview with the French journalists, I reiterated my already known positions that I have been repeating for a long time, and that is that Czechoslovakia [as heard, means Slovakia] does not wish to secede from Czechoslovakia; it wants to continue its way toward European integration within the framework of Czechoslovakia, that will probably be membership in the European Communities, but Slovakia would like to hold its own position in the European Communities that in fact corresponds to the relevant part of the Federal Government's policy statement.

The French journalist asked me when this could be expected to happen, to which I replied that, according to published estimates, the admission of Czechoslovakia to the European Communities could be expected around the year 2000, which means that it can be expected, or at least we expect, that we will gain our own position in the EC by around 2000.

[Bielikova] Maybe it was your answer to the question with regard to whether you pursue the same or similar aims as the Slovak nationalist parties that caused the surprise.

[Carnogursky] Yes, to this I replied that from a certain point of view it is possible to say that I pursue the same or similar aims, but I added—and this the CTK report on the article in LIBERATION contains—that at the same time I am striving to harmonize the aspirations of the nations of Central and Eastern Europe with Europe's ideas on what shape the future Europe should have, in other words to harmonize in some way the Western and Eastern ideas about the future organization of Europe.

[Bielikova] It is said that you have changed your view on the treaty between the Czech and Slovak Republic. Anyone who truly follows and knows your views does not think that you have changed it, but the proposal for

the treaty between the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic that was put forward by the Christian Democratic Movement [CDM] does not speak clearly about the form of the joint state, that is whether it will be a federation, confederation or union, and possibly this gives rise to the various interpretations?

[Carnogursky] Truly I have not changed my mind on the question of the treaty between the Slovak Republic and the Czech Republic. If the CDM proposal does not specifically set out the form of either federation or confederation, this is because, as a rule, before talks on a treaty begin, all details of the future treaty are not spoken about. The content of the future treaty is a matter for the talks between both partners, in this case the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic, and the form of the constitutional link between the Slovak Republic and the Czech Republic will emerge from the content of this treaty. Another reason is that, as a rule, the final text contains such and such elements.

I have had many opportunities to say that, for example, the ratification of the Federal Constitution by the national councils is a typical confederation element. In contrast to this, the direct effect of decisions by federal bodies for the citizens of the republics is a typical federation element. So it can be expected that the resulting link between the Slovak and Czech Republics will be a mixture of such elements.

[Bielikova] So, there is no excitement, no denials, no surprises concerning what you said to the editors of the French daily LIBERATION?

Calfa Responds to Carnogursky Remarks on Slovakia

LD2307143391 Prague Ceskoslovensky Rozhlas Radio Network in Czech 1100 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] As we have informed you, Slovak Prime Minister Jan Carnogursky will be striving for the complete independence of Slovakia by nonviolent means by the year 2000. He said this in an interview for the French paper LIBERATION. Federal Prime Minister Marian Calfa now gives a reaction to this statement, having been asked by journalists at today's news conference in Prague whether or not he is surprised by this statement from Jan Carnogursky:

[Begin Calfa recording in Slovak] This is in no way a new viewpoint because Mr. Carnogursky has been saying from the very begining that he is in favor of a joint state until the moment when he is able to enter Europe, the European Community, and that he wishes to sit on his own chair there. This is the theory of two chairs. He has been proclaiming this from the very beginning. This view is no surprise, and I can only thank him for stating this view sincerely and without evasion. In politics today this is a rare phenomenon.

I am of a completely different view, as far as the future of Czechoslovakia is concerned. I personally am of the view that a state formation such as the Slovak Republic or the Czech Republic simply does not have a chance of survival in this environment, with the neighbors that it has at this time. [end recording]

Prime Minister Calfa Discusses Screenings Law

AU2307122691 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 22 Jul 91 p 16

[CTK report: "Marian Calfa on Screenings"]

[Text] Bratislava—CSFR Prime Minister Marian Calfa said in his radio address on 20 July that the attacks on the government bill on screenings are not being made along government coalition-opposition lines; they are being made by people whom this legal amendment may affect or by people for whom—first and foremost—the integrity of our legal code is a matter of concern. In reply to a question on whether he fears the German example in asserting the screenings law, M. Calfa said that this is a draft that, for a certain category of staff, means a ban on carrying out their functions in the state apparatus. "In view of society's moral state of health, I think we have to come to terms with our past by this form at least. If the concept for conducting screenings is adopted in the form proposed by the Federal Government—that is, with the possibility of a judicial review—it will correspond to the demands of a law-governed state," stated the federal prime minister.

Carnogursky Reports on Slovak Government Session

LD2307213191 Bratislava Ceskoslovensky Rozhlas Radio Network in Slovak 1630 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Excerpts] There were 30 points on the agenda of the Slovak Government session today. This morning it discussed only three points but later on the speed increased. Therefore, Prime Minister Jan Carnogursky was able to give quite a comprehensive report at today's regular news briefing. Alica Bielikova was there for Radiojournal: [passage omitted]

An important point discussed at the government session was the problems of marketing agricultural products. Here is the prime minister's answer about setting up a fund for market regulation:

[Begin recording] [Carnogursky] We have approved the draft of the material for the bill put forward by Vladimir Dlouhy, federal minister of economy, and also by the Slovak Agriculture Minister Krsek on setting up a federal fund for market regulation. It will be used to procure agricultural products for prices agreed by the agricultural workers and the state. These prices should be able to sustain agricultural workers. I do not dare to say in this situation whether this is a temporary or permanent solution. In any case, it deals with the immediate acute situation in agriculture at least for this year. What happens next will be shown in the future.

[Bielikova] You also discussed the completion of the motorway today.

[Carnogursky] The important thing is to consider the order of importance of individual sections of the motorway as they are to be built in the future. [passage omitted]

[Bielikova] The Federal Government has not approved the minimum wage of 2,200 korunas recommended by the Slovak Government. Are you disappointed?

[Carnogursky] This will cause complications in social relations and in relations between employers and employees. This shows that the republican governments should be dealing with the problems rather than the Federal Government. The Federal Government is slightly too high up to feel the pressure of specific problems.

[Bielikova] 'NARODNA OBRODA' published an interview with ex-Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar yesterday about his government's foreign activity. He quoted various arguments about how to improve our economy, and he also says that it is a great pity that there is no continuation of the activity of political agreement. What do you think of this?

[Carnogursky] I read the interview with Mr. Meciar in NARODNA OBRADA yesterday. The facts he quoted are 95 percent incorrect—amusing in places. Mr. Meciar claims that, during the Slovak Government's visit to Serbia, the Serbian Government offered Slovakia the opportunity to build hotels on the coast. Well, Serbia has no coast, and therefore, I do not know how the Serbian Government made this offer. May I also mention that, at the time, I was in Serbia as a member of the delegation and the Serbian Government offered us nothing of the kind.

[Bielikova] Does this mean that your government had to start its foreign activity from scratch and that there was no continuity with the previous government's activity abroad?

[Carnogursky] Such a categorical statement should never be made. Naturally, the Slovak Government is continuing in the activities that were begun by the previous government led by Mr. Meciar. I think that the general public has the option to make its own judgment as to what extent specific projects were agreed upon in the past and to what extent they were not. [end recording]

I must add that the Slovak Government did not agree with the Federal Assembly bill on radio and television broadcasting due to a large number of objections and comments today. It agreed with the comments made on the bill on state control. This law is needed because of changes in the current control system.

It also agreed, in its comments, with the bill on principles of the law on the Army of the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic. It acknowledged the report on dealing with the problems between the Greek Catholic and the Orthodox Church and also discussed a number of other issues.

No Agreement Reached With Unions on Minimum Wage

LD2307174991 Prague CTK in English 1621 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Prague July 23 (CTK)—"We have not arrived at any agreement on the minimum wage, talks will continue", Czechoslovak Premier Marian Calfa told journalists after today's meeting with the president of the General Council of the Czech and Slovak Confederation of Trade Unions (CSKOS), Roman Kovac.

The federal government wants the minimum monthly wage to be kept at the present 2,000 crowns [currency as received] while trade unions call for it to be raised to 2,200 crowns.

Calfa said also under discussion during the meeting, attended also by Czechoslovak Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Petr Miller, was the functioning of the Tripartite Council (government, trade unions, employers) and stressed it is an important body.

Asked whether the trade unions will renounce their decision to withdraw from the tripartite talks, Kovac said "today's results suggest we could take part in round-table talks again".

The leadership of the CSKOS, the strongest union body in Czechoslovakia, announced on July 19 that it will not attend any tripartite talks until August 31. The CSKOS responded to the federal government's decision of July 18 to maintain the minimum wage at 2,000 crowns in spite of the trade unions' and employers' recommendation to raise it to 2,200 crowns made earlier this month.

The CSKOS said the government unilaterally broke the "general agreement" of January 1991 which provided for the cost-of-life adjustment of the minimum wage.

Kovac said this trade unions' attitude should not be interpreted as stubornness. It is necessary that a new way of the functioning of the council be found, he said, adding, "we have found a way out at today's talks".

Dlouhy on Repaying Billon Mark Debt to Germany

AU2307151791 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 19 Jul 91 p 3

[Interview with Federal Economy Minister Vladimir Dlouhy by Zdenek John; place and date not given: "How Much Do We Owe Germany?"]

[Text] [John] Mr. Minister, a few days ago the German Finance Ministry announced that Czechoslovakia owes Germany 1.59 billion German marks [DM]. Prime Minister Calfa stated in our newspaper that we are currently trying to ascertain how the German financial experts reached this figure. Do we already know how this debt arose?

[Dlouhy] Our trade balance and our balance of payments in relation to the Federal Republic's original laender developed virtually in tandem. Exports have even had a slight lead over imports since the beginning of the year.

Likewise, in relation to the former GDR, Czechoslovakia had a slightly active balance for a number of years until 1989. A passive balance developed in 1990 as a direct consequence of the economic, monetary, and social union between the FRG and the GDR and of the subsequent union of both German states. There were upheavals in the behavior of enterprises in the GDR. Undertakings amounting to 212 million rubles [R] were not contracted. Some already concluded contracts for supplies were unilaterally withdrawn from the GDR, although contracts for them existed. This amounted to roughly R250 million. It was also an element of old agreements that the GDR would take out certain resources for tourism because we also took these resources from them. This amounts to R232 million. The GDR returned R77 million. This was money that remained from the old resources for tourism. On the whole, a deficit of almost R680 million developed. The Germans have recalculated this sum at a rate of one ruble for 2.34 marks. This is where our declared debt in marks comes from.

[John] When did the German side come up with this demand?

[Dlouhy] Negotiations have been taking place for quite a while. Nevertheless, German experts came up with the sum of DM1.59 billion at the end of June. Of course, this is an absolutely German matter; it does not mean that we would fully accept this sum. We have our own ideas for resolving the whole issue. Obviously, not in such a way that we would have to supply Germany with goods worth DM1.59 billion. Our starting point is that we are asking for part of this sum to be written off.

[John] Do you think that because the German side has adopted such a firm stance, it is relying on at least part of its demand being fulfilled?

[Dlouhy] It is clear that since they came up with such a firmly formulated demand we had to, in essence, proceed just as firmly in the negotiations. We had to say that we are asking for this debt to be written off. However, I believe that the basis for an agreement exists. In my opinion, it is possible to deduct some items and then hold talks on what to do with the rest.

[John] How much do you think "the rest" you are talking about will be?

[Dlouhy] I think it is possible to write off more than 50 percent of this DM1.59 billion debt.

Statistical Office Reports Price Stagnation

AU2407103891 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 23 Jul 91 p 8

[Statement issued by the Federal Statistical Office Department of Commerce and Prices Statistics, in Prague; date not given: "Prices Stagnated in June"]

[Text] Industrial producers' prices fell by a total of 0.8 percent in June in comparison with the previous month. A nominal mutual movement in prices was recorded in individual branches with decreases prevailing in the food, industrial fuels, and power industry branches in particular.

In comparison with the same period last year, industrial producers' prices were 69.7 percent higher on average during the first six months of 1991 (in June they were 77.5 percent higher compared to June 1990). A marked increase was recorded in all branches. This rise was influenced, on the one hand, by increases in the fuel, energy, and chemical industry sectors at the end of last year and, on the other hand, by this year's price changes within the framework of price liberalization, particularly in January and February.

Price movements in the Czech and Slovak Republics in June were similar (a decline by 0.8 percent in the Czech Republic and by 0.6 percent in the Slovak Republic compared to May). During the first six months of the year, price increases were on average slightly higher in the Slovak Republic than in the Czech Republic compared to the same period last year.

According to estimates, the cost of construction projects in June was roughly the same as May (an increase of 0.3 percent). The situation was the same with the cost of materials and products used in production (an increase of 0.3 percent).

During the first six months of the year, the cost of construction projects was on average 45.8 percent higher in comparison with the same period last year (by 51.9 percent in June in comparison with June 1990) and the cost of materials and products used in construction was 59.5 percent higher (by 67.8 percent in June in comparison with June 1990).

In comparison with the same period last year, the cost of construction projects—as well as the materials and products used in construction—were, during the first six months of the year, higher on average in Slovakia than in the Czech lands, as a consequence of more disparate price levels in the first few months of the year.

Prices for agricultural products, as opposed to other price ranges, have increased only very slightly since January. In comparison with 1989 price levels, prices from the beginning of the year to June increased by an average of 2.9 percent; 19 percent in vegetable products and 1.6 percent in animal products. While purchase prices in the Czech Republic from the beginning of the year to June—in comparison with 1989—showed an overall average increase of only 0.5 percent, purchase prices in the Slovak Republic rose by 8.7 percent.

Social Democrats Negotiating New Coalition

LD2307142191 Prague CTK in English 1221 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Prague July 23 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party (CSSD) Chairman Jiri Horak told journalists here today the party leadership is negotiating possible coalition with the Agrarian and the Czechoslovak Socialist parties.

The coalition should be a basis for a broader alliance which might be joined by some Christian parties, the Civic Movement (OH) or the Greens Party if they were interested, Horak said.

He criticised the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly (parliament) for postponing discussions on the fourth version of a bill on small privatisation which, in his opinion, is sometimes a farce, a war of mafias or an attempt at collective fraud. Horak said a law on political parties, an election law and a new constitution should be adopted.

The CSSD will now support the election system of proportionate representation although in the future it would rather prefer a majority system which is more effective, Horak said.

Soviet Troop Environmental Damage Reported

LD2307165891 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1000 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Led by Prime Minister Jozsef Antall, an on-the-spot inspection is being held today at the Tokol airport to show the environmental damage caused by the Soviet troops. Attila Csaszar reports:

[Csaszar] Prior to the inspection of the Tokol airport, government members were informed by Minister Sandor Kalnoki, about the results of the environmental damage assessments carried out between 15 November 1990 and 19 May 1991. The press was briefed separately by Ern Kis, an expert from the Ministry of Environmental Protection. He said that the damage caused at the former Soviet barracks and practice grounds has been assessed by 1,300 experts over some 120,000 working hours. According to this, in the past 35 years the Soviet troops caused our country greater damage than previously imagined. They have contaminated and destroyed 40 percent of ground and underground waters and 16 percent of the living world and landscape. In the case of the Tokol installation, this has reached such an extent that the 3,000 cubic meters of kerosene are now hardly visible on the ground surface, while the hydrocarbon pollution, according to the opinion of the Ministry of Environmental Protection experts, is remorselessly and rapidly flowing toward the Danube, endangering the functioning wells and long-range water bases of the metropolitan water works. This situation is topped by the 750,000 cubic meters of polluted soil and the 72,500 cubic meters of bulldozed building rubble and dangerous waste. In their opinion, if immediate measures are not taken, it could result in the spread of pollution and a significant increase in the costs of subsequent restoration. The solution now would be for the government to divert 9.6 billion forints of immediate rapid aid for starting the work. Jozsef Antall and his government are also at present weighing this request as they inspect the Tokol airport.

There is no chance this year for the money requested by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, according to Mihaly Kupa [finance minister], because we have already spent even the savings. Naturally, everything depends on the government decision. He added that discussions with the Russians [as heard] must be conducted in such a way that a zero balance should result, if possible. In answer to a question, he said his personal impression is one of despair. However, the environmental damage must at all events be reduced.

First Year Results of Stock Exchange Assessed

LD2307131291 Budapest MTI in English 1127 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Budapest, July 23 (MTI)—The Budapest Stock Exchange (BSE), Eastern Europe's first real exchange, was opened on June 19, 1990. Since then, the 41 founders have been joined by three new members, and the assets climbed from 211.5 million forints to 220.5 million (one dollar - approx. 75 forints). Up to now, ten companies have gone public, issuing shares at an aggregate face value of 12,500 million forints. According to senior BSE executives, privatization will enable at least 20 companies to go public this year, and 30 to 35 ones next year.

The foundation of the exchange gave fresh impetus to securities trade, previously a somewhat limited field. In the first six months, turnover showed a sixfold increase. Although the Gulf crisis discouraged trading and resulted in a major decline in late 1990, the end of the war and the increasing confidence of foreign and domestic investors led to another major upswing this spring, with the daily turnover exceeding 100 million forints. Since then, another slight decline has been experienced.

In an effort to keep pace with the ever increasing turnover, BSE is going to modernize its trading and information systems. Some parts of the new systems will be introduced in the current, temporary exchange hall this year. BSE is scheduled to occupy its final headquarters next year. Three-quarters of the 500,000-pound project, including the furnishing and the installation of an exchange hall and a computer system, will be financed from the British Government's know-how fund. The new system will be capable of handling 10,000 transactions a day.

Foreign Minister Comments on Visit to U.S.

LD2307135491 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1000 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Geza Jeszenszky has arrived home from the United States. Katalin Mogyoro asked him about the aim of his visit:

[Begin recording] [Jeszenszky] I was invited to the events marking Captive Nations week, which still exist. I was not sponsored by the Hungarian Government. Several things have happened in our area to justify myself and the American leadership holding talks directly and personally about these processes.

[Mogyoro] I believe one of the things that interested you was whether, after the G-7 summit and the talks with President Gorbachev, the views on Hungary and the Central European region are the same as before.

[Jeszenszky] I was not disappointed. What I heard in Washington about the talks confirmed what we expected anyway. During preparations, Hungarian diplomats and two other countries jointly called the attention of the G-7 to some possibilities for a solution that would consider the interests of us three, and the whole of the Central and Eastern European region, while not holding back the Soviet Union's integration to the world market.

[Mogyoro] I am sure Yugoslavia was mentioned, too.

[Jeszenszky] I believe that it is primarily the duty of the peoples, nations, and minorities of Yugoslavia to find a solution. Unfortunately, this formula does not work without help. Both the United States and Hungary welcome and find it extremely important that primarily the EC, but in a wider frame all the 35 European and North American states, take part in the mediation, in the preparation of such solutions—in agreement with the governments of Yugoslavia, the federal government and the republic governments—that will hopefully settle the situation that is now extremely worrying in all its aspects. [end recording]

Correction of Antall's SFRY Remarks Denied

LD2307203791 Budapest MTI in English 1922 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Budapest, July 23 (MTI)—'According to relevant Serbian political sources, the Hungarian Government has released a correction of Prime Minister Jozsef Antall's statement, in which he said that the Paris Peace Treaty had stipulated that Vojvodina become a part of Yugoslavia and not Serbia', Prime Minister of Vojvodina Radoman Bozovic stated in an interview carried by the Hungarian daily MAGYAR HIRLAP, on Tuesday.

Ivan Baba, head of department at the Hungarian Foreign Ministry, agreed to comment on the interview to MTI.

'The statement of Prime Minister Antall was and is in no need of correction, so the Hungarian Government has made no such correction either', Baba said.

'The prime minister simply recalled a historical fact, which all those wishing to avoid the disintegration of Yugoslavia as a result of violence and antagonism between the republics over borders would do well to remember. It is a fact that the Paris peace treaties fixed Yugoslavia's borders, but the borders of the republics are not mentioned in international documents, and, as Mr Bozovic also recognises, these were set by administrative mechanisms.

'It would be a mistake to think that if a republic declares its borders unilaterally, other republics will accept them automatically.

'Thus, if internal borders are redrawn through violence, incurring the risk of international conflicts and the creation of a permanent crisis zone in the heart of Europe, this will no longer be a mere home affair of Yugoslavia, but one of Europe as a whole. In this spirit, the Hungarian Government called attention to the necessity of settling the issue of Vojvodina inside Yugoslavia with tolerance, and with due regard to the interests of all nationalities living there, including the 400,000 Hungarians', Baba said.

Speaking about Hungarian-Serbian ties, he asserted that during the past year, besides maintaining good relations with the federal government of Yugoslavia, the Hungarian Government has also launched initiatives to develop co-operation with Serbia.

'We very much regret that the Serbian leadership, despite the expression of its readiness to co-operate with us in principle, has failed to respond to our proposals and effectively cold-shouldered our friendly gestures.

'Hungarian state organizations have been developing a fruitful co-operation with the Democratic Community of Vojvodina Hungarians (DCVH), that we believe to have been useful for Serbia as well', Baba said.

'Hungary does not regard the DCVH as the sole trustee of the rights of Vojvodina Hungarians but it certainly represents the interests of wide circles of Hungarians, at the same time as being one of the strongest opposition parties in the Serbian Parliament.

'The fact that in the crisis, one that spells potential civil war for Yugoslavia, the leadership of the DCVH attaches prime importance to the danger threatening Hungarians, that is, its own electorate, cannot be regarded as 'treachery' or 'a call for desertion', since its chief aim, in line with the endeavours of European states, is to seek a peaceful solution to the Yugoslav crisis, precluding armed conflict between nations and nationalities, or, more perilously, inside them', Ivan Baba stated.

Advancing the official Hungarian position on the Yugoslav conflicts, one that enjoys international support, Baba stressed that the decision on the future of Yugoslavia must be made by the nations and nationalities living there.

'Hungary backs all solutions that are achieved in a democratic way and are based on consensus', Baba said.

USSR To Supply Oil in Return for Medicines

LD2307211391 Warsaw TVP Television Network in Polish 1730 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] We will get Soviet oil in return for our medicines. This was discussed today by Deputy Prime Minister Leszek Balcerowicz and Igor Denisov, Soviet minister of health. It is expected that we will sell $360 million worth of our medicines to the Soviet market. Let us recall that during the first six months of this year we sent medicines of a total value of $80 million. The Soviet Union still owes half of this sum. A barter transaction was agreed on today. Our expenditures for purchasing oil in the second half of this year will amount to $300 million, which is the exact sum the Soviet Union will owe for medicines.

[Begin recording] [Denisov, in Russian with superimposed Polish translation] We have two options at the moment: to increase the supply of oil to Poland using the surplus money for purchasing medicines, or, second, to increase the share our Ministry of Health is getting from the sales of oil, so that more money may be spent on the purchase of medicines.

[Balcerowicz] The conversation was interesting as there were possibilities for increasing the export of Polish medicines in exchange for Soviet oil. I consider it a promising start. [end recording]

Lack of Soviet Troop Withdrawal Accord Viewed

LD2307210791 Warsaw TVP Television Network in Polish 2030 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] The 10th round of talks on the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Poland has begun in Moscow. The troops are stationed on the basis of a bilateral intergovernment agreement. An identical agreement should regulate their withdrawal, said government press spokesman Andrzej Zarebski. The lack of such an agreement is one of the hindrances in the construction of good-neighborly relations between our countries, he added.

[Begin recording] Since the start of this year, the Soviet Army has not been paying for transit across Poland, and the accumulated fees on this account owed just to the Polish State Railways already amount to 30 million Swiss francs. A second matter is the lack of access of Polish environmental protection inspection teams to the bases where the Red Army is based. There is significant ecological damage there. We would like to produce an inventory of these. Two inspections held at two airfields revealed that the losses on this account with regard to the environment came to approximately 2 million zlotys. [end recording]

GUS Releases Data on Production, Deficits, Pay

LD2307202691 Warsaw PAP in English 1938 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Warsaw, July 23—In the first half of the current year production in Poland was by 9.3 percent lower (in constant prices) than in the respective period of 1990, the Main Statistical Office (GUS) said on Tuesday [23 July].

In the first five months of 1991, Polish enterprises recorded losses bigger by 7.5 percent than their profits, this trend being noted for the first time since 1980. Their total losses amounted to over 1.56 trillion zlotys.

Compared with December, 1990, prices of foodstuffs in the first sixth months of 1991 rose by 19.9 percent, services by 85.1 percent, gas by 369.6 percent, and electric energy by 147.4 percent.

During the first half of 1991, the state budget deficit amounted to 13 trillion zlotys (1.17 billion dollars), including deficit in the foreign credits balance. The budgetary revenues from income tax (17.2 percent in the period under review), dividend tax (15.9 percent) and turnover tax (28.2 percent) indicate that the implementation of the 1991 Budget Law is uncertain.

According to the GUS estimates, the average pay in the six basic sectors of national economy amounted to 1551.9 zlotys (some 140 dollars), the real value of an average pay was by 17.3 percent lower than last December. During the first half of 1991 the purchasing power of the average pay was by 4.1 percent lower than in the second half of 1990.

Between January and June, 1991, the total of 271 strikes were staged against 91 in the respective period of 1990, and 159 in the second half of 1990.

Walesa on Importance of Efficient Legal System

LD2307175591 Warsaw PAP in English 1524 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Warsaw, July 23—President Lech Walesa handed Tuesday [23 July] 106 nomination acts to newly appointed judges of district, provincial and military courts.

Adressing those assembled at the ceremony, the president said that Poland's reforms would end in a failure without good legal system and efficient jurisdiction.

"There are thousands of statutes of new firms, companies and enterprises lying on your desks, thousands of matters of argument concerning financial, banking and, generally speaking, economic issues. Delays in your work may result in the collapse of many firms. In consequence real possibilities of changes in Polish economic habits will be threatened", Walesa stated.

"The judge's work", he continued, "consists not only in deciding on somebody's guilt in criminal cases. It is also essential in assisting economic reforms, the progress of which will determine Poland's position in Europe. You have been given important instruments of action. The

credibility of the Polish state depends on your righteousness and honesty. It is you, with your work, that can help to take the country through the difficulties of the restructuring period.

Center Accord's Urbanski Interviewed on Politics

AU2407083391 Warsaw SZTANDAR MLODYCH in Polish 19-21 Jul 91 p 4

[Interview with Andrzej Urbanski, secretary of the Center Accord Main Administration, by Halina Retkowska; place and date not given: "A Party for Ordinary Poles"]

[Text] [Retkowska] POLITYKA journalist Mariusz Janicki counts your party among those "dangerous" groupings whose hallmarks are "creating a strange feeling of guilt and an aura of widespread crime, disorder, and chaos that must be countered at all costs." In his opinion, the Center Accord is a party of discontent and chronic frustration, a party that makes people "feel uncomfortable, although they have a clear conscience." You do not, of course, agree with that view?

[Urbanski] Obviously not. POLITYKA has been looking at the world in the same way for the past 30 years. Their way of thinking assumes that some group of intellectuals, for example, or representatives of the political apparatus are in a position to impose a feeling of apathy, disorder, chaos, and danger on society. That is nonsense, of course. Life itself creates a certain mood. Corruption, industrial decline, recession, unemployment, and dangers connected with the condition of the state are not inventions of my party, but a sorry reality.

[Retkowska] Janicki is not, however, so unfavorably disposed toward you. He thinks that giving the Center Accord a significant share of power is in Poland's long-term interest: "The goal is to civilize the party."

[Urbanski] Suggestions about who needs to be civilized sound rather strange coming from a journalist working for the post-communist press. In addition, he displays a great degree of political naivete in assuming that only one group will hold power in Poland. Today, we should not be thinking about which party will be in government, but whether the future government will be a strong one that enjoys the support of Parliament and will implement reform consistently. The truth is that presently many groupings are pretending to support reform, while in actual fact they want to create a great deal of political and economic instability in Poland.

[Retkowska] We already have experience with conspiracy theories of history.

[Urbanski] These conspiracies are not something I have just invented. After all, it is no coincidence that the most populist union organization is Mr. Alfred Miodowicz' National Trade Union Confederation—currently, the sole heir of the entire communist tradition. It is the most vociferous group in campaigning for the rights of working people in Poland! There are many more examples of this kind.

[Retkowska] Take the example of the Center Accord, which is "accelerating," then "carrying out decommunization," and announcing a "purification of the state." These are also populist slogans aimed at the masses.

[Urbanski] We see ourselves as a party for ordinary citizens, for ordinary Poles, and so we do not treat society as "the masses," "hoi-polloi," or as those stupid citizens who voted for Tyminski. We do, of course, perceive certain very worrying trends. However, we realize that it is not society itself that is generating this concern, but the current situation, above all the economic situation, that causes us concern.

Suspecting us of populism is utter nonsense. When our party talks about employee-share ownership, that has nothing whatsoever to do with populism! It is an attempt to convince workers that they should support privatization. After all, they are not going to support it with goodwill alone. They are, however, in a position to continually go on strike, and as a result frighten off foreign capital and lead to a situation in which privatization will end in a fiasco....

[Retkowska] However, would you agree that by bandying around various—theoretically "catchy"—slogans, you have achieved almost nothing at all? Instead of approval, your actions are increasingly incurring disapproval from your countrymen.

[Urbanski] I have not noticed that.

[Retkowska] In almost all public opinion polls, the Democratic Union has had a lead of at least 10 points over you. That is not exactly difficult to notice. Is this the result of, among other things, plugging "acceleration" and "decommunization"?

[Urbanski] I would point out to you that a political slogan is one thing and being able to realize it is another. I would also remind you that, for example, the idea of a government that would effect a breakthrough was linked to the "acceleration" slogan. As we know, that kind of government was not formed. That is why it was also impossible to realize acceleration.

[Retkowska] Why have you not provided the prosecutors' office with the names of criminals, and why have you not produced a list of nomenklatura companies whose owners should appear in court? Why, instead of doing that, do you just stir up trouble, turn people against each other, and call for thieves to be tracked down and caught?

[Urbanski] But we have been proposing legal means all the time. The only drawback is that the laws that we have now are still to a large extent the laws of the Polish People's Republic. That is why there are so many loopholes in our laws, loopholes that are primarily exploited in all kinds of corruption affairs. We believe that this

state of affairs cannot go on much longer. That is precisely why the Center Accord formulated a comprehensive concept for creating new legislation and special decrees. It was Minister Glapinski's intention to replace dozens of old communist laws with four special laws that would make it possible to base the construction industry on completely new principles. It is not our fault that the plan was not accepted by the Council of Ministers. It is not our fault that the legislation is currently being criticized by deputies during Sejm commission work. Incidentally, it is mainly being criticized by the left, communist part of the Sejm.

[Retkowska] I would like to get back to the question of catching thieves. Jaroslaw A. Szczepanski, the head of the Center Accord commission for writing a decommunization law, explained that "it is difficult to provide the prosecutors office with names, because one needs proof, and that proof is difficult to obtain." Surely that kind of admission compromises the person making it, does it not?

[Urbanski] Perhaps that was not the best way to put it. However, with a little goodwill it is not hard to imagine what Szczepanski wanted to say. I think that what he meant was that a party cannot prove that specific crimes have been committed. It cannot do that, because it does not have the appropriate legal means or the apparatus essential for that kind of activity. However, it is the party's task to influence political reality in such a way that the institutions responsible for law enforcement can function as efficiently as possible.

[Retkowska] Nevertheless, the ordinary citizen has the right to apply to a district attorney's office for the institution of proceedings against X or Y. Every member of the Center Accord has the same right. So, why are you not doing anything?

[Urbanski] My dear lady, the purpose of democracy is not that a lone citizen should oppose either the entire state or some kind of clique or mafia. Actually, that sometimes happens in a democracy, but then it indicates some kind of failure on the part of those institutions responsible for law enforcement. Parties—I repeat—exist to apply pressure on those institutions at the request of citizens. That is precisely what the Center Accord is doing. However, we will definitely not turn ourselves into the Association of Policemen, Informers, and Investigators.

[Retkowska] As we are already on the subject of democracy... When the First Center Accord Congress approved the motion on writing a decommunization law, the Main Administration of the Association of Polish Lawyers said the motion "contains a proposal that cannot be realized in a democratic law-governed state, but fosters illusions in society that could have unpredictable, negative consequences for both domestic and international relations...."

[Urbanski] The representatives of the Association of Polish Lawyers commented on a matter that did not have a precise form at that stage. In their opinion, the Center Accord was demanding the institution of collective responsibility with respect to the functionaries of what was formerly the Polish United Workers Party....

[Retkowska] There were people demanding just that.

[Urbanski] But they lost the vote. We have consistently pointed out that the decommunization laws should have a more personal rather than an institutional character. It is, above all, a question of eliminating the structures of the Polish People's Republic, such as the legal structure, which is still in force.

I think that a process of decommunizing public life in Poland—following the German postwar pattern—would be difficult to carry out today and probably impossible. However, it is certainly possible to realize the great task that Konrad Adenauer took on in Germany after World War II. It is possible to build a new type of society by building a new type of democratic institution, a new type of industry, economy, and law.

[Retkowska] Please satisfy my curiosity. Would, for example, Jacek Maziarski, former Democratic Party lecturer and author of panegyrics in praise of socialism and of Gierek [former Communist Party leader] that appeared in NOWE DROGI, be subject to the decommunization laws? Would former members of the PAX association, but now belonging to the Center Accord, be subject to these laws? Jaroslaw Kaczynski has described PAX as "less nasty than the Polish United Workers Party, but nasty nonetheless."

[Urbanski] You have phrased the question badly, in fact you have perceived the entire issue incorrectly. Your approach is too personal. It is like finding a person and then deciding what paragraph of the criminal code he has violated. My party proposes a different way of viewing the problem. Let us define the meaning of "vestiges of the Polish People's Republic." Well, the most dangerous vestiges are not people, but connections between people. As for Jacek Maziarski, he was linked to the opposition and the "Experience and Future" group from the very beginning. He was a hero of martial law. His brief membership of the Democratic Party is totally different from an active, ideologically-motivated membership of the Polish United Workers Party.

[Retkowska] What exactly do you mean when you say that connections between people are the most dangerous?

[Urbanski] For example, it is not Alfred Miodowicz, chairman of the National Trade Union Confederation, who was dangerous, but the entire Confederation itself as an institution that acted against the interests of this country, this society, and this nation. All the corruption mafias and nomenklatura groups are dangerous, but the individuals who created them are not.

[Retkowska] It does not matter whether the organizations are dangerous or just the people in them, the fact

remains that you invented the "decommunization" slogan and, as is usually the case with everything in the Center Accord, it has not gone beyond the slogan stage.

[Urbanski] We cannot implement this slogan because we do not have a majority in the Parliament and government.

[Retkowska] But you have two ministers in Jan K. Bielecki's cabinet.

[Urbanski] Only two, and to make things worse, they are not responsible for the police, law, and the prosecutor's office. It is difficult for a construction minister to decommunize the country.

[Retkowska] But Justice Minister Wieslaw Chrzanowski and his Christian-National Union have sympathized with the Center Accord from the very beginning. They even want to enter an election coalition with the Center Accord. It is not their fault that Jaroslaw Kaczynski does not want them in a coalition.

[Urbanski] The Christian-National Union supported Lech Walesa, but each group has the right to choose its own coalition partners. The Christian-National Union, with its "Catholic Pole" slogans, National Democratic traditions, nationalistic overtones, and declared hostility toward a market economy and foreign capital, is ideologically and programmatically "right of center," which does not mean we cannot solve specific problems together. We want to form a modern Christian democratic movement, a pragmatic center right, a party of ordinary citizens who want changes and are willing to implement them, a party born out of the "Solidarity" spirit. We want reforms that will give Poland economic stability, a clear future, and success in the future for every Pole.

Italy's De Michelis Arrives, Meets Nastase

AU2307134191 Bucharest Programul Unu Radio Network in Romanian 1300 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Mr. Gianni de Michelis, minister of foreign affairs of Italy, has arrived in our country on an official visit. Immediately after his arrival, a first round of official talks were held with Mr. Adrian Nastase, Romanian minister of foreign affairs. On this occasion, the Italian minister reiterated his country's desire to further support Romania so that it may achieve its full integration into the network of European structures from both a political and economic point of view.

The two ministers expressed the desire for Romanian-Italian cooperation in various subregional bodies in Europe such as the Black Sea pentagon and cooperation among the Danubian countries and in the Balkans. The two sides also discussed questions of common interest regarding minorities, the situation in Yugoslavia, and other issues.

At the end of this round of official talks, the two foreign ministers signed important documents: the treaty of friendship and cooperation between Romania and the Italian Republic; an accord between the Government of Romania and the Government of the Italian Republic on [word indistinct], and the protocol of the 10th session of the joint Italian-Romanian Commission for Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

Treaty Hailed

AU2307192191 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1804 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 23/7/1991—Italy will further support Romania to fully integrate into the European states both on a political and on an economic plane. Italy's readiness along this line was reiterated by Italian Foreign Minister Gianni de Michelis during the talks he conducted Tuesday [23 July] at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with his Romanian counterpart Adrian Nastase.

The two ministers expressed willingness to expand Romanian-Italian collaboration within various subregional bodies in Europe, and approached questions of mutual interest with regard to minorities, the situation in Yugoslavia, and others.

The Romanian foreign minister highlighted that the treaty of friendship and collaboration signed on the occasion established the framework for the future cooperation between the two countries, being also an expression of the dimension of the Romanian and Italian peoples' friendship. The document is a proof of the Governments of Romania and Italy to help each other in finding the best projects in the political and economic spheres, Adrian Nastase stated. The treaty is also important because it attests to Italy's wish to back Romania in getting nearer to the Common Market, the head of the Romanian diplomacy showed.

In his turn, Gianni de Michelis stated that the documents signed stimulated active friendship between Italy and Romania as it provides the bases for better relationships in all sectors able to offer the two countries the possibility of contributing to building up a new Europe. The treaty of friendship and collaboration between Romania and the Italian Republic is also significant because it is one of the numerous bilateral documents under negotiations or already signed by Italy with other European states, said the Italian foreign minister.

Such a type of bilateral treaties is one of the basic elements of the new European architecture, he pointed out. He also specified that the document was signed a couple of days after similar documents had been signed in Prague and Budapest, which is a proof that Italy does not consider there are two groups of states, those in the East and others in the centre of Europe, and they are equally treated.

Italy wishes that the Common Market had the same kind of relationships, on the same level, with all the countries in Eastern and Central Europe, De Michelis underlined. We believe in the future of Europe just as we believe in Romania's, the Italian foreign minister showed in conclusion.

Roman Meets De Michelis

AU2307191591 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1730 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 23/7/1991—"I discussed three important matters with Mr. Gianni de Michelis," said Premier Petre Roman after the interview with his Italian counterpart. "First of all, Romania vis-a-vis Europe. He is one of those who think that Romania should urgently join the European Community. And that is the point of view of virtually all EEC countries. Secondly, we had talks about the economic projects which the Italian Government could support in Romania. There are many, and we are going to present a package of them in the month of September. They are very interesting and from various fields: Highways, modernisations of car, bus, agricultural machine building, agriculture proper and others. Finally, we approached the Yugoslavian issue, that is a matter of concern for all of us, a very delicate matter, and that must in no case, trigger the division of Yugoslavia and, who knows, of Europe. Therefore we must overcome this situation as best we could. In the context we discussed about various formulas, various initiatives that can be of help."

Iliescu Meets De Michelis

AU2307191891 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1750 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 23/7/1991—Tuesday, 23 July, Romania's President Ion Iliescu received, at Cotroceni Palace, Italy's Minister of Foreign Affairs Gianni de Michelis.

During the talks, the guest referred to the signing, with his Romanian counterpart, of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between Romania and Italy, and expressed his satisfaction with this successful diplomatic action. Aspects were also discussed of Romania's home situation and of the international life. Italy's intention was made clear to contribute to Romania's integration in the structures of European bodies.

After the call, the Italian foreign minister said: This interview with President Iliescu is the climax of my visit to Bucharest. A short, but significant one. After talks with the Foreign Minister Adrian Nastase, with the Deputy Prime Minister Eugen Dijmarescu, with the Prime Minister Petre Roman, the interview with Romania's president represents the confirmation of a visit whose significance will be very clear: The end of a phase of transition in our relations I initiated at the beginning of last year and the commencement of a new, stable and solid phase of relations, not only friendly but also intense, between Italy and Romania, in the context of the new role Romania is going to play in the Europe of tomorrow."

The most important moment, added De Michelis, was the signing of the treaty of friendship and cooperation, a very important treaty, tracing the lines and rules of our future relations.

For his part, President Ion Iliescu considered the treaty to be "a document establishing a new basis for the relations between our two countries and expressing our common wish to develop bilateral relations on all planes."

The president added that views were also exchanged on the situation in Yugoslavia.

"We are interested in identifying ways, with our modest means, to contribute to the easing of tension, hoping peaceful solutions will be found to solve the conflict."

News Conference Held

AU2407071391 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0612 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 24/7/1991—The signing of the Romania-Italy friendship and cooperation treaty opened a new stage in the bilateral relations, the Italian foreign minister told a news conference on Tuesday [23 July] at Bucharest's Intercontinental Hotel. He showed that his talks with President Ion Iliescu, with Prime Minister Petre Roman, with Economy and Finance Minister Eugen Dijmarescu and with Foreign Minister Adrian Nastase had covered a wide range of questions of joint interest—political as well as economic. Economic cooperation was discussed, the guest said, both between Romania and Italy, and between Romania on the one hand and the Common Market, the Group of 4, and the International Monetary Fund on the other. It was agreed that Romanian-Italian exchanges be revived through joint projects in communications, power, electronics, information processing, agriculture and farm machinery.

Gianni de Michelis told the press that Prime Minister Petre Roman had been invited to Italy in autumn, probably in October.

Answering the journalists' questions, the Italian guest showed that Italy did not and would not discriminate between Romania and other countries, and that all East and Central European countries were given equal treatment.

For his part, Romanian Foreign Minister Adrian Nastase stressed that the Italian chief diplomatist's visit and the signing of the friendship and cooperation treaty were a landmark in Romanian-Italian relationship. He also emphasised Italy's determination to support Romania's link up to various European organisations, to the EEC, its clear wish to set the links with Romania into its non-discriminatory framework for relations with East European countries.

The Romanian foreign minister also said that subregional development had also been covered, such as Yugoslavia. We have in Bucharest a friend of Romania, a good friend—Mr. De Michelis—the representative of a friendly country that assisted us and continues to do so, the Romanian minister wound up his remarks.

De Michelis Departs 24 Jul

AU2407111691 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0901 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 24/7/1991—Concluding his official visit to Romania, Italy's Minister of Foreign Affairs Gianni de Michelis left Bucharest on Wednesday [24 July].

On the Otopeni Airport the head of Italian diplomacy was seen off by Adrian Nastase, minister of foreign affairs, by other Romanian officials.

Present were Italy's ambassador to Bucharest Bernardo Ugoccioni and members of the embassy.

Nastase Rejects Criticism of Treaty With USSR

AU2307124091 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0734 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 23/7/1991—In an interview with the GAZETA DE TRANSILVANIA daily of 20/21 July published in the south Transylvanian city of Brasov, Romanian Foreign Minister Adrian Nastase in reference to the treaty with the USSR and Romania's national treasure in Moscow said he was "very disappointed by the lack of understanding" on a question "we better not make waves or give so many explanations about." Of all treaty critics, none offered an alternative, he said. As far the treasure is concerned, this is very simple, he went on. [sentence as received] We are in the process of compiling an exhaustive documentation. We

asked all our ministries and institutions to supply their documentation and we are making the file of this case in order to discuss it with the central Soviet Government, he said.

'United Democratic Opposition' Formed

AU2407105991 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0854 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 24/7/1991—A communique sent to the ROMPRES news agency specifies that the following political parties and formations, noticing the lack of organisation and unity of the opposition, decided to set up a coalition of the entire opposition called "United Democratic Opposition" the aim of which is the participation on common lists in the future (local and parliamentary) elections, alongside or as part of the Antitotalitarian Democratic Forum: The Christian Democratic Union, the Free Democratic Party, the Christian Democratic National Party, the Social Justice Party, the Conservative Monarchist Party, the National Union for the Victory of the Revolution, the Democratic Unity Party, the Romanian House of Democratic Europe Party, the Progressive Democratic Party, the National Democratic Party for Justice, the Romanian Christian Republican Party, the Democratic Party, the Romanian National Party, the Party of Small Owners and Free Initiative, the Party for Honouring the Revolution Heroes and National Salvation, the Romanian Democratic Party, the Democratic League for Justice, the Confederation of the Alliances for Justice, the National Union of the Former Communist Party Members.

President of the United Democratic Opposition is Nicu Stancescu; vice-president—Nica Leon; general secretary—Vladimir Fulger.

Article Deplores Reestablishment of RCP

AU2307150791 Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian 20 Jul 91 p 1

[Gilda Lazar article "The Romanian Communist Party Has Been Founded Again"]

[Text] Not even two years after what some of us called "revolution" and others "state socialist revolution," and before the images of the youngsters who were killed had time to vanish from our memories, we learn with stupefaction that on 22 July 1991 a Collegium for the Organization of the Romanian Communist Party [RCP] was set up, incorporating 70 members at present and headed by Engineer Virgiliu Zbaganu. The Steering Council also includes Florin Cotolan (professor) and Ion Nicolae (technician). The founding took place under "fully legitimate and legal" conditions because current laws and the communist Constitution permit it. I have taken this information from the unprecedented report in LIBERTATEA. Even if it was just a hoax, it deserves attention because of its unheard of cynicism.

The National Salvation Front, though divided, is becoming stronger; we have a Social Party of Labor headed by Ilie Verdet; what we were lacking was the very extreme of the leftist spectrum: The RCP itself.

So we should not be surprised that, according to AM PRESS, Verdet has ordered one million party membership cards from the printing house.

Small wonder that the paragraph referring to communist extremism has disappeared from the Constitution Theses.

Should we wonder that President Iliescu has repealed the decision of 12 January 1990 on outlawing the RCP?

Should we ask ourselves why publications and circles close to the Securitate make such efforts to exacerbate the problem of anti-Semitism and the "Hungarian threat," thus creating diversion, so that the left may be strengthened through communism as a normal opposite pole of a fascism manifested only by words?

Today we demand a firm attitude on this issue on behalf of the state's basic institutions: The Parliament, government, and president. We are no longer talking of an opportune or inopportune appearance, but about an affront to a nation that for 40 years was tortured by those who are today once again trying to stage a comeback.

Economists Deny Endorsement of Privatization Bill

AU2307145191 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1250 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 23/7/1991—The newspaper ADEVARUL received for publication a note of protest from the National Council of the General Association of Economists in Romania (AGER) which shows inter alia: In his recent televised speech, Prime Minister Petre Roman said the controversial draft law on privatization, which the government submitted to Parliament for emergency discussion approval, was supported by most economists. AGER informs that it did not send the government any note approving of that bill, in the form it was set forth. Quite on the contrary, some of its members critically analysed it in the magazine ECONOMISTUL and in many other newspapers and reviews. However, there is no sign the government considered the proposals and remarks made in the media."

Showing that an elementary exigency—requesting that before the privatization bill is voted the members of the government, the parliamentarians, the employees of the privatization agency and all those involved in the privatization process should declare their wealth—was not met, AGER writes in conclusion: "We consider that to say that most economists agree to the government draft law is a groundless statement which creates confusion and burdens economists with a historic responsibility which is only the government's. AGER is willing to cooperate with all bodies, with all the forces committed

to the reform process in the elaboration of a privatization bill meeting our people's fundamental current and long-term interests."

PNT-CD Position on Privatization Bill Detailed

AU2407085791 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0755 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 24/7/1991—The Christian-Democratic National Peasant Party [PNT-CD] will not discuss in Parliament the Privatisation Bill because it should have been preceded by economic stabilisation, the party's Secretary Mircea Ciumara told the daily "CURIERUL NATIONAL" in an interview.

We cannot agree to sell out to foreigners assets which right now are devalued. But we do accept and indeed encourage foreign investment in revamping, updating, extending and building new plants, he said. Nor is my party in favour of giving all the country's adults an equal share of the planned 30 percent of commercial companies' property. A company's personnel should be given priority as an incentive. And, Mr. Ciumara said, we will seek compensation for property confiscated by communists.

The Christian-Democratic National Peasant Party has its own privatisation programme which was published in its press organ "DREPTATEA" (justice) more than a year ago, and worked out a bill which it introduced in Parliament, he said. "Our experts were not invited to attend the (select) commission's debate" Mr. Ciumara stated. And "while it is true that the commission also comprises members of our party, it is equally true that a parliamentarian may not be an expert in economics," the party secretary said.

Roman: People Need To Change Mentality

AU2307133191 Bucharest LUMEA AZI in Romanian No 29/18 Jul 91 p 2

[Interview with Prime Minister Petre Roman by Margareta Vasiliu, on 4 July, in Bucharest: "In the Final Analysis, Mentality is Changed Through the People"]

[Text] [Vasiliu] Mr. Prime Minister, in your opinion, what is still missing in Romanian society—in theory, because in practice it is short of many things—so as to be called a state of law?

[Roman] For it to be called a state of law theoretically, our society is not missing all that much. The draft constitution has been worked out and we will soon have a constitution; a whole number of legal instruments have also been set up and the whole legislation of economic democracy, that is, of the market economy, has also been adopted to a very large extent. However, in practical terms, it is necessary to ensure the functioning of the instruments of the state of law; in this respect, things may require more time, since it is necessary to bring about a change in the people, too...

[Vasiliu] When you refer to people, do you mean the people proper or their way of thinking and mentality?

[Roman] I am talking about their mentality, but you should realize that, in the final analysis, mentality also changes with the people and, in many cases, the change is started by a not too large group of people.

[Vasiliu] It is us who should bring about this change. I do not believe that you are thinking in terms of somebody from the outside who....

[Roman] Obviously not. This is a gradual process that is developing with the emergence of such people. Quite often, these people manage to assert themselves. We should discover them before they compel recognition and should have the necessary courage to promote them so that, in their turn, they can promote a true dismantling of the old mentality and the structuring of a new mentality, in accordance with the values of overall political and economic democracy and freedoms.

[Vasiliu] Are you concerned with Romania's image?

[Roman] This is a primary concern of mine. I said that on 29 January in the Council of Europe and, of course, on many other occasions. I tried to improve it through direct action and by capitalizing on our country's positive and serious achievements, ever since the revolution—first of all, the revolution itself. In this respect, we had quite a lot to learn. A country's image consists of many apparently subjective and collateral elements, which are directly molded by personal contacts and influences and, obviously, by the interplay of interests. As a matter of fact, international interests may sweep away or ignore, to be more exact, a positive reality, in preference of semi-obscurity or the search for dark spots on one's record. Or, in a country like ours, given our known inheritance, there is no shortage of dark spots. First we had the problem of the handicapped, of the orphan children, illegal adoptions, the theft of children... Well, all these were very tough nuts to crack...

[Vasiliu] These are old problems, which however went unnoticed at the time.

[Roman] Yes, this is something we can blame others for. This reproach is so strong, that the others are turning a deaf ear to it and, if necessary, even a blind eye.

[Vasiliu] How do you view the West's reaction to Romania's striving to resolve its transition problems in a faster and less painful manner?

[Roman] As many people confess, the reaction is not sufficiently positive and helpful in this respect. This is a fact of life, a reality. I have often asked myself whether we are responsible for this situation. If that had been the case—I say it openly—I would have given up because, a prime minister can do a lot of things, but one thing he may not do, and that is to jeopardize the national interest because of a political interest. The truth is that disorder, dispersion, and discord among Romanians have played a nefarious role. They reason for all that is

clear-cut: suspicion. Even I fell into that trap. Regardless of how open I thought I was, all the more was I surprised to realize, post-factum, that somewhere in the recesses of my open-minded brain there is an area still loaded with suspicion. So, this is a fact. It is a valid explanation. Unfortunately, one can also provide other, less justified explanations for all that. Consequently, all this has caused further confusion in the minds of many Westerners, who failed to understand the situation.

In all other countries—Czechoslovakia, Hungary, even Poland, and, at a certain point, Bulgaria, too—everybody worked together. When the government program was launched—a program that was adopted by Parliament almost unanimously—we should all have worked for its implementation, rather than wait for the mistakes and reveal its weak points in a totally disorderly way. The weak points, difficult moments, and mistakes were really unavoidable. "So what?" [in English, as published] as the English say. What was accomplished by all that? This has also been another important element. On top of which comes the image—which some people were very successful in selling abroad—of a so-called revolution that was not carried to the end, that was not finalized! Of course, the change was so brutal that we were left with people, mentalities, interests, and certain things that....

[Vasiliu] Can one talk about Romania's coming out of the isolation to which it has been condemned?

[Roman] Yes, there is no doubt about that. Even today (4 July—our note) or the previous days have been quite significant in this respect. I received a team of very high officials at the U.S. State Department headed by two assistant secretaries of state, who came here to discuss concrete aspects of the democratic process in Romania. Today, on the national day of the United States, the NATO secretary general [Manfred Woerner] was present at the ceremonies in our country. I also met today with the director of the New York Institute of Strategic Studies. There are just a few elements, of some consequence, that show that one can no longer talk of such isolation. Of course, one cannot talk of a complete outbreak from isolation, due to the fact that the Romanian society itself still carries the scars of the evils of dictatorship. This is the reality. We could not keep tabs on everything; neither were we able to find correct solutions to all problems, in accordance with the state of law. This is something that needs time to grow. I keep saying that, when it comes to a whole range of basic problems, we are faced with an evolutionary process there; in other words, with something that is being achieved step by step. Basically, however, one can no longer talk about Romania's isolation. I am convinced that this no longer applies.

[Vasiliu] Cannot one interpret the renewed attempt of some former socialist countries to regroup as another attempt at isolating our country?

[Roman] It can be interpreted as a kind of egoism, so to speak; particularly with regard to the setting up of the group of the three countries [Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Poland], which, it is true, have gained greater credibility, having benefited from a longer evolution process. In 1989, we were what we were, while they had already gone through several stages of internal liberalization. Of course, they want to capitalize on their advantage and are trying to proceed as a group toward the West. In the long run, this approach cannot succeed, since it implies and even counts on the lagging behind of certain countries, such as Romania or Bulgaria. This, however, is out of the question, as all of us have turned our backs on the past and are striving to advance as fast as possible to the same values of the West. Therefore, I believe that, in the long run, theirs is an unwise attempt.

[Vasiliu] Thank you very much.

[Roman] Thank you, too.

Federal

Document Prepared on Moratorium Functioning

LD2307152491 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1409 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Belgrade, July 23 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Government has prepared a draft document on the functioning of the federation during the three-month moratorium which has been agreed on by all the republics.

The moratorium has been brokered by the European Community and it does not envisage any one of the republics undertaking unilateral measures to disrupt Yugoslavia's legal order which had existed until the end of June when Slovenia and Croatia unilaterally declared independence.

The Federal Government's proposal will go into effect as soon as it is signed by the presidents of all six Yugoslav republics and the highest federal authorities. Negotiations on the country's future, as envisaged by the agreement on the moratorium, are due to start on August 1.

The proposal envisages eleven joint functions in the country during the moratorium, as TANJUG has learned.

They are: market, monetary system, hard currency system and credit relations with foreign countries, income system and money transfers, customs system and non-tariff protection, the federal budget, defence and security, foreign policy and judicature.

During the moratorium, the Yugoslav Government will draw up a list of the property owned by the federation, federal organs and organizations.

The Government has also proposed an end to the 'forming of new autonomous regions, changes of external borders, border regime, armed conflicts, and the forming of illegal armed formations' during the moratorium, as is set out in the document.

This would mean an end to hostilities and the 'withdrawal of arms and demobilization of additionally mobilized armed formations.'

It would also be necessary to ensure the overall implementation of existing regulations on the protection of freedoms and human rights and measures would be undertaken for the 'de-blocking of the media.'

Papers Assess Ohrid Presidency Session

LD2307124791 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1118 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Ljubljana, Sarajevo, [no date as received] (TANJUG)—The Ljubljana daily DELO today reports that the Yugoslav State Presidency in Ohrid had been 'faced with a large number of problems and few operable solutions.'

The daily, which is published in the capital of the Yugoslav Republic of Slovenia, expresses doubt that 'presidents of feuding republics can give written guarantees for peace in a disintegrating federal state.'

DELO doubts also that they can 'bring under control the feuding sides in eastern parts of Croatia and force Chetniks to give up the guerrilla war against Croatia, with their signatures on a statement on the elimination of force.'

Chetniks were Serbian collaborationist armed formations during World War Two who acted in the interest of the Yugoslav royal government in exile. Today, the Croatian authorities and news media use this word for Serbs in Croatia who are engaged in armed conflicts with the Croatian police and guard.

The commentary says that the 'Yugoslav republics have only one common point: All their economies have been brought to their knees.'

The Sarajevo daily OSLOBODJENJE today writes that it seems that 'there is both success and failure in the political dialogue in Ohrid, depending on what suits whom at which moment.'

The daily which is published in the capital of the Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina warns that the results of such agreements are disastrous, with scores of dead, wounded, and hundreds of people scared and deeply concerned about the future.

The Sarajevo daily VECERNJE NOVOSTI points out that 'there is no good will in some of the key actors in Yugoslavia's drama, because if there were, then they would not all send their own envoys abroad as the only instruments for realizing their political ambitions.'

'With these actors and such policies, with the balance of forces such as it is in the world and at home, every talk ends where it started. The only way progress can be achieved is for at least some of them to exit from the political stage,' the daily concludes.

Ohrid Summit Participants Comment on Meeting

LD2307183491 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1643 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Belgrade, Sarajevo, Ljubljana, July 23 (TANJUG)—President of the Yugoslav Republic of Montenegro Momir Bulatovic stated today that the latest Yugoslav summit in Ohrid showed in the best way the situation in the country, for a pompous expectation was not accompanied by any satisfactory outcome.

Bulatovic said he was shocked by political hypocrisy and a lack of statesmanly wisdom with some of the participants in yesterday's meeting.

He said that for one of the latest attempts at averting a civil war in Yugoslavia the members of the State Presidency had no more than three hours of work, because

time was lost in waiting for Slovenian representatives Milan Kucan and Janez Drnovsek to arrive.

The two Slovenian representatives, as was said, were unable to take off from Ljubljana Airport because they had needed permission from the military authorities that care for air space in Yugoslavia.

It showed up, said Bulatovic, that such a permission had been given on time.

The summit was left by Croatian President Tudjman who, in Bulatovic's words, was raising unreasonable demands. 'To demand that the military in Croatia should withdraw to barracks at a time casualties fall in clashes between Serbs and Croats, is in fact a demand to continue the bloodshed.'

Bulatovic stated that, in their endeavour to adopt a peace appeal, participants in the Yugoslav summit had actually been confronted with an ultimatum, the non-fulfillment of which should have resulted in a war.

Member of the Yugoslav Presidency from Montenegro Branko Kostic described as senseless the Croatian demand for pulling Federal Army back to barracks, because such a move would mean a direct inter-ethnic clash of wide proportions in the crisis areas in Croatia.

Kostic said that the Army should be withdrawn to barracks in these areas only after the disarming of paramilitary Croatian formations which, as he said, were over 100,000 strong.

President of Bosnia-Hercegovina Alija Izetbegovic declared he was not content with the meeting in Ohrid. He also described Croatian demands as unrealistic. As for his departure tomorrow for the U.S., Izetbegovic said it would contribute to the internationalization of the situation in this Yugoslav republic which was, as he said, threatened by division.

Slovenian leaders Kucan and Drnovsek saw the Ohrid summit in the light of the interests for peace which they marked as the central concern in the current position of this northwest Yugoslav republic.

Member of the Yugoslav Presidency Drnovsek said that the further armed hostilities in Croatia would seriously jeopardize peace, while it was in the interest of peace, he said, that he proposed a substantial accord to be negotiated by the leaderships of Serbia and Croatia.

Draft Agreement on Country's Functioning

LD2307160191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1248 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Ohrid, 23 Jul (TANJUG)—The Orhid statement adopted late last night emphasizes that the members of the SFRY Presidency, the presidents of the republics, or presidents of the presidencies of the republics, and the top federal officials agreed that an agreement should be reached on the functioning of the country during the three-month period, on the basis of a Federal Executive Council [FEC] proposal.

The draft document, which the FEC had already drawn up, and which would should be signed by the presidents of all six republics or presidencies of republics, by the president of the SFRY Assembly, the president of the SFRY Presidency, and the president of the FCC, foresees that talks on future relations in the country should begin by 1 August at the latest. The main decisions should, furthermore, be ratified and submitted to the public before the expiry of the three-month moratorium. In this period the federal government is to draw up a balance sheet of the state of the property of the federation, the federal bodies and organizations.

The draft agreement states that what is understood under the moratorium is the complete cessation of all armed clashes and all hostilities and the establishment of peace throughout the country. It also means "suspension of application of all regulations and general acts, regardless of whether they relate to secession, disassociation, change of internal borders between republics and within them, including the formation of new autonomous formations, change of external borders, the border regime, the use of force, armed clashes, and the formation of illegal armed formations, which also means the withdrawal of weapons and the demobilization of all additionally mobilized armed formations." According to the FEC proposal, this at the same time means the return to the status quo ante in cases where the implementation of regulations has begun.

According to the draft agreement, during the moratorium the single Yugoslav market should function without blockades, and with the property and ownership rights of citizens and enterprises being respected throughout the entire territory of the country. The existence of a single monetary system is planned, with the dinar as the sole currency, and the Narodna Banka Yugoslavije [NBJ] will intervene in the single foreign currency market only to pay obligations relating to foreign credits which the federation or the NBJ had guaranteed.

All functions of the payments system will be reestablished to normalize payments circulation, and it is envisaged that the single customs system should be restored to the situation existing before 25 June, which means that the Federal Customs Administration should function at all border crossings and that customs duties, import taxes, and duties should be laid into the federal budget.

In accordance with the draft agreement, the release of federal goods reserves would be removed [as received], and the financing of the joint functions of the federation while the moratorium is in force would accord with the proposal on the minimum necessary funds required in the federal budget in that period. At the same time, the defense, security and foreign policy of the country will remain joint functions.

Unified application of existing regulations on protecting the freedoms and rights of man and citizens will also be insured, as will measures to set free the information sphere.

During the moratorium period, the draft agreement states, it is essential to insure the functioning of the institutions of the system, and the SFRY Assembly will, in full complement, determine the method of working and decisionmaking in the forthcoming three-month period. This also relates to the SFRY Presidency and the FEC, which must also operate in full complement.

Croatia's 'Militaristic Attitude' to Crisis Viewed

AU2307205691 Belgrade Radio Belgrade Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Kosta Krajincanic commentary]

[Text] After the Ohrid meeting at the highest level, it has become quite clear who is in favor of peace and who is in favor of war. There is now no longer any dilemma. By refusing to sign the joint declaration on peace, [Croatian President] Franjo Tudjman and [SFRY Presidency President] Stipe Mesic to all intents and purposes came out in favor of the use of force in resolving the Yugoslav crisis.

By making their signature conditional on the demand that the Army withdraw into barracks, they made their militaristic attitude to the crisis even more obvious. The Yugoslav People's Army is nowadays the only force that manages to some extent to calm down warmongering passions and prevent far-reaching skirmishes. To force it into its barracks would mean to remove the final obstacle to the barbarism of war. It can only be presumed, and this with much certainty, how much more blood would have been shed were it not for this Army, which has rushed from battlefield to battlefield either as a buffer or fire fighter, throwing itself between enraged fighters to actually save their lives.

However, Tudjman and Mesic say that the Army is interfering in the political resolution of the crisis. This can only be perceived as the two Croatian leaders treating the warlike skirmishes in Slavonia, Baranja, and Banija as the political way of resolving the quarrels in Yugoslavia. They therefore consider the thunder of cannons and the whine of kalashnikovs to be a political discussion. Whether Tudjman and Mesic like it or not, the Yugoslav People's Army will nevertheless continue to get involved in a discussion that is conducted with such means. If it does not do this, it will not even be necessary in its barracks.

The political resolution of the Yugoslav crisis, because of which the summit in Ohrid was convened, required quite different means: above all, a reasonable discussion on very practical matters. The public expected the leaders to concern themselves with those issues on which war or peace directly depend and which will at some point have to be cleared up. It was understood that it would be better to do this now rather than later on.

The meeting ended, however, with a declarative appeal for peace, which is not insignificant, but it is not enough to unravel the main knot. And the main knot is the delineation between two legitimate rights: The right of the Croatian people to an independent state and the right of the Serbian people in Croatia to not live in this state. We are talking about the wish that has been expressed and proven several times by both peoples, which is a political reality that must be taken into account in all current and future talks.

Anyone who avoids recognizing both these realities and refuses to draw a conclusion without the use of force is not on the right road to resolving the crisis.

This is actually what Franjo Tudjman is doing. Indeed, in his statement after the Ohrid summit, he mentioned and invoked political reality, but in this respect he only meant the will of the Croatian people. Nationalist intolerance closed his eyes to the other reality. Moreover, the day before yesterday in Osijek, Tudjman unambiguously made it known that this other political reality, that is, the wish of the Serbian people in Croatia, does not interest him at all. We will not give up one inch of Croatian territory, he said at that time.

It can be understood that instead of striving for detente, the Croatian leader is making the situation increasingly tense. He has made so many promises to his people and stirred them up so much, that any concession to the realities of the times would literally destroy him, primarily in his own community. Let us recall that at the very beginning of his career in the Croatian Democratic Community, Tudjman promised the Croatian people their own machine guns. How will he now persuade them not to use these machine guns?

Instead of peace and talks, Tudjman chose war even then.

Mesic Comments on 'War Psychosis'

LD2307173691

[Editorial Report] Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian at 0812 GMT on 23 July carries live a 72-minute news conference by SFRY Presidency President Stipe Mesic with unidentified correspondents in Ohrid.

Mesic opens the news conference by discussing the Ohrid Declaration, Yugoslav People's Army deployments, and the 22 July SFRY Presidency meeting.

At 0825 GMT, Mesic turns to the issue of dialogue to resolve the SFRY crisis, saying: "The problem is that this psychosis, war psychosis, suits some because they think they can fulfill their political goals only with such a war psychosis. As long as there is a threat of war, they believe they can achieve something [words indistinct]. Despite this, they will be under pressure from the

domestic and international public. We must opt for dialogue, and I, nevertheless, optimistically hope that we will talk because such battles as the one that happened yesterday can occur again, but war cannot break out, and war will not break out. Unfortunately, there will be more casualties. However, we must hold talks. The first meeting will be held very soon; the next Presidency session will be held either tomorrow or the day after tomorrow and will discuss the Croatian situation. Afterward—very soon, in a day or two—we must reconvene such a meeting and agree in political terms, we must express our political will, that we will function during the moratorium as a serious state. Second, we must agree on a future state, because we have nowhere to go from here; we are here no matter how you look at it; even if we dissociate completely, we are again here, and again we must communicate, but we must resolve essential questions. I say must because we are all sharing the same difficult economic situation. The social revolt can ruin everything, both those who have good intentions and those who believe that something can be resolved through war. They can be erased from the political scene very quickly."

At 0830 GMT, Mesic answers a question on Serbian responsibility for the SFRY crisis, saying: "If you listen closely, I think you will be able to decipher who is involved. If official Serbia pays Martic's police, if Chetnik groups come from Serbia into Croatia, if they bring arms from Serbia, if they are formed in Serbia, if they cause terror in Croatia, and if they gather around themselves militant Serbs to overthrow Croatian power, I think it is easy for you to judge who it is in Croatia, in Yugoslavia, who does not want any kind of Yugoslavia." A correspondent then asks Mesic whether "Serbia is the only one responsible for this situation," to which Mesic replies: "Well, most responsible."

At 0845 GMT, Mesic turns to ethnic minority issues. In reply to a question concerning his predictions for further developments in Yugloslavia, Mesic says: "Well, I don't believe that one can predict what will happen on the political scene, or particularly, what will happen before the end of my term in office. We are dealing with problems as they arise, and we predict things as best we can, but it is difficult to tell what will happen.

"We know which demands and which political options exist. On one side there is the option of individualizing the republics and creating an alliance of sovereign states on the basis of their interests. This is one of the two options, while the other one is to create a so-called modern federation. All advocates of the modern federation would welcome Slovenia being thrown out, so they can seize Croatia; or seize parts of Croatia so, my dear gentlemen, Greater Serbia could be created.

"So, these are the two options. Demands that the Serbs should live in a single state are just mimicry: the truth of the matter is thus concealed. If official Serbia wants to fight for Serbs' interests in Croatia, then they should first ask to see what is written in the Croatian Constitution regarding Serbs' rights. Then they would see that the same thing is written both in the Croatian and the Serbian Constitutions. Croatia is a state which consists of all its citizens, hence neither of Croats nor of Serbs, but of all its citizens. The same thing is written in the Serbian Constitution. They would have to fight by asking in what way are Serbs deprived of certain rights. Those Serbs most under threat would be the Serbs wherever they are in a minority. Those are the Serbs from Kosovo, who were deprived of all rights, and probably are also now in the same position. Because there they are a minority and obviously, do not have many rights. So, in Croatia, according to the same logics, the Serbs, wherever they form a minority, should not have many rights, and should stage a rebellion. However, that is not true. They are staging a rebellion where they are given absolutely all rights, i.e. where they have their 100 percent Serbian assemblies, executive councils, police; where they have all managing positions; where they have complete power, like in Knin, Lapac, Gracac, etc.

"Therefore, my dear gentlemen, this is a trick. Serbs' rights in Croatia are not being fought for. What is actually being fought for is part of the territory in Croatia populated by Serbs. Because even if Krajina seceded, that would be approximately 80,000 people, while the number of Serbs living in Croatia is 570,000. What would happen to other Serbs? Is the Serbian problem solved if a state for 100,000 Serbs is set up? [passage indistinct] What are the people being taken in by? The Serbs have a right to several states, while the Croats have no right to a single one, and even that one they would have to share with the Serbs. All other nations would get as much they are allowed to have. [words indistinct] Nobody in the world enjoys this privilege. Each nation has a right to one state, but members of the nation that live outside that state would have to be absolutely (protected?). And if somebody wants to fight for the Serbs' rights in Croatia, in Hungary, in Bosnia, then he has to fight for their rights and not for their territories.

"What is actually happening around the border between Croatia and Vojvodina is actually making space for the annexation to Serbia, because Djordje Paroski, who is, as you know, deputy to the Serbian Assembly, arrives there together with the Serbian Minister for Serbs Outside Serbia, Cvijan, and then the two of them gave speeches. Paroski then says: Gentlemen, if somebody comes here and says that it is Croatia kill him like a dog. This is the cooperation between official Serbia and the battle for the Serbs' rights in Croatia. Official policy should distance itself from this. It has not yet done so. Belgrade Television shows a certain [word indistinct] who had reportedly drowned, and who says: I have killed six Croats, and will kill 605 more. There you are."

At 0905 GMT Mesic discusses the border issue, saying: "Both external and internal borders must be guaranteed as the only prerequisite for peaceful negotiations. I have always insisted that there is no single border on the planet Earth—except in the case of island countries—that can be called a just border. There will always

be...[changes thought] For instance, there are two million Hungarians in Transylvania, in Romania. Is Hungary to wage war now for Transylvania? It must fight for the equality of Hungarians in Romania rather than for Romanian territories. There are Croatians in Burgenland, Austria. Croatia can raise the issue of the language, of their cultural autonomy, and of their position in Austria, in general, but it cannot annex Burgenland, although the Croatian population is the majority there."

At 0912 GMT, a Macedonian Television journalist asks Mesic whether Slovenia is still a part of Yugoslavia. Mesic says:

"Slovenia has only initiated the process of dissociation. It is a part of Yugoslavia because Yugoslavia is an internationally recognized subject. Slovenia, as you know, has not been recognized by a single country. Therefore, Slovenia is not an internationally recognized subject. It is a part of Yugoslavia, and according to the Constitution, the Yugloslav Armed Forces include the Yugloslav People's Army [YPA] and the territorial defense. Hence, strictly abiding by the Constitution, the territorial defense of Slovenia is a part of the Yuglosvlav Armed Forces. The fact that a conflict occurred between the territorial defense and parts of the YPA does not mean that a conflict with the whole of the YPA occurred; that was only a conflict of limited proportions. This did not change the constitutional and legal situation in Slovenia, and particularly not during the three-month moratorium according to which decisions on dissociation should not be implemented. Everybody wants to get as much as he can out of the chaos, but it has nothing to do with the law."

At 0924 GMT, Mesic ends the news conference by saying Ohrid is the most beautiful place in the world.

TANJUG Summarizes Mesic News Conference

LD2307133491 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1135 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Ohrid, 23 Jul (TANJUG)—I continue to be optimistic that we will arrive at an association of common interests in the common life of everyone in Yugoslavia, said SFRY Presidency President Stipe Mesic at a news conference in Ohrid this morning following the end of the expanded session of the Yugoslav State Presidency.

Stipe Mesic informed journalists that the state leaders will meet in a day or two to consider the latest development of events, especially in Croatia. "We are too much a part of the world for us to be able to engage in war in isolation. Our people are nevertheless not so gullible as to be able to be dragged into a total war." Despite everything that is happening, a real civil war will not occur, mainly because Yugoslavia is "part of a burning building," and Europe will not allow the whole building to go up in flames, Mesic said.

Stressing that the presidency members will succeed in communicating so negotiations can be resumed, Mesic said that he and [Croatian President] Franjo Tudjman dissociated themselves from "the Ohrid declaration" only because, according to Mesic, it fails to resolve the essential question of the return to the Army to the barracks.

"The Army should not be an arbiter in politics. We want to demonstrate our desire for problems to be resolved by political means, not by using the Army. It is precisely the departure of the Army from the barracks that is encouraging those who want to form a parallel authority. If the Army returns to the barracks, this means that Chetniks and other intruders will withdraw from Croatia. Croats and Serbs will then very rapidly renew their contacts and peacefully resolve conflicts," Mesic stated categorically.

It would be better for us to have more results," Mesic said, assessing the work of the expanded session of the SFRY Presidency. "Had the results been spectacular, certainly all the participants in the meeting would have come and held news conferences," Mesic believes. He was categorical in opting for public security of the work of the Presidency and intimated the possibility that an agreement might be reached on sessions being broadcast so the whole of Yugoslavia's public might know what is being said by whom and who advocates what in the state leadership.

Mesic said that the Croatian National Guard is a paramilitary organization but not an illegal one. "The Presidency insists on the disarming of illegal paramilitary organizations," Mesic said when asked how the disarming decision is to be implemented. He added that everything possible has to be done to disarm paramilitary organizations and to reduce the Army's combat readiness.

Mesic accused the leadership of Serbia of the destruction of the Croatian economy and of tourism, including direct losses in this sphere of $2 billion. This is being done to the detriment of everyone in the country since, as Mesic said, the destruction of the Croatian economy will heighten social tensions throughout the country. No one will be spared social unrest, neither the cutter nor the one sitting on the branch.

The problem lies in the fact that the atmosphere of war suits some quarters as a tool for fulfilling their political goals. However, under pressure from both the domestic and world public, they will have to accept a dialogue on peaceful solutions to the crisis, Mesic said. He is of the view that, despite the casualties and clashes so far, Yugoslavia is not in the grip of a civil war. Our situation compares with the situation in Ireland, Spain, or Corsica, he said.

Asked by a Swedish radio reporter to assign blame for the present situation and explain Serbia's share of responsibility, Mesic said that "most responsibility for the situation rests with Serbia," especially in view of the fact that "official Serbia is financing Martic's [head of the Krajina internal affairs secretariat] policemen and

has been sending armed groups of Chetniks. Serbia could hardly wait to get Slovenia off its shoulders to seize Croatia," Mesic said.

Asked by a TANJUG pool of reporters about the influence of the United States and the Soviet Union on events in Yugoslavia and about Europe's initiative for a peaceful solution to the crisis, Mesic said: "Certain international limits exist which Yugoslavia, as member of the international community, cannot exceed. Peace initiatives from outside are therefore understandable and cannot be seen as interference in internal affairs."

Mesic described the Gligorov-Izetbegovic platform as being topical and acceptable, but said that the dilemma has yet to be resolved about the manner in which a possible alliance of sovereign republics should function in parallel with a sovereign federation. He praised Macedonia's principled attitude in the negotiations so far on the country's future.

Asked to clarify Tudjman's statement on the possible division of Bosnia-Hercegovina, Mesic said that Tudjman "advocates absolute respect for all borders, including the borders of Bosnia-Hercegovina. What is more, Bosnia-Hercegovina must be saved, but it is the people of that republic alone who can decide on what those borders will be. In any case, Croatia cannot remain indifferent, since there are 800,000 Croats living there." Mesic told about 70 journalists attending the news conference that the Presidency has received a large number of telegrams with appeals for peace.

Mesic left the news conference to applause that greeted his comment on the beauties of the host town, which Mesic described as being "like a fairy tale—the most beautiful city in the world."

FEC, Assembly Agreement About Assembly Session

AU2407093591 Ljubljana Radio Slovenia Network in Slovene 0500 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Text] [Announcer] To attend the curtailed session of the SFRY Assembly Federal Chamber or not? This was the major dilemma at the Federal Executive Council's [FEC] session that ended late last night and featured some very sharp disputes between individual factions in the government. According to our Belgrade correspondent, Biserka Povse, the FEC members will attend the session of the Federal Chamber today, but not under the scenario envisaged by the leadership of the SFRY Assembly and some pro-Serbian oriented members of the Markovic cabinet.

[Begin Povse recording] The FEC delegation visited the coordination group which is preparing the Federal Chamber's session this afternoon, proposing that the session be postponed until a better time, when the deputies from Slovenia and Croatia would also be present. The evening talks ended, however, with a compromise in which Prime Minister Markovic on this occasion succeeded in avoiding the scenario that was prepared in advance by some Government colleagues as well as by the Assembly's leadership. The session of the curtailed Federal Chamber will only issue an appeal for peace, and an appeal to the deputies from Slovenia and Croatia to return to the Federal Assembly as soon as possible—in the same or a different composition—which is also envisaged in the Brioni Declaration. Let me remind you that Slovenia will send a special negotiating group to the Assembly, which will be elected on 1 August, when the negotiations should already be under way. If Slovene and Croatian deputies do not return to the SFRY Assembly by 1 August at the latest, then the SFRY Assembly itself will raise the question of its future existence.

At yesterday's government session Markovic also strictly prohibited the Federal Chamber—in a curtailed composition, without two delegations being present— from in any way adopting the decision on the functioning of the Chamber of Republics and Provinces, as was also envisaged in one of the Assembly's scenarios.

The agenda of today's session remains unchanged. This means that a debate on the current situation in the country will begin. The two introductory exposes will be given by Vlado Kambovski, Federal Secretary for Justice and Administration, and Budimir Loncar, Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs. As already mentioned, the debate will be aimed at the future, that is, at the functioning of the state in the next three months, during the moratorium. The representatives of the Federal Secretariat for National Defense and of Internal Affairs will also take part in the debate if the deputies so wish.

It was agreed during yesterday's heated debate at the Government's session that all questions relating to the Supreme Command can only be answered by the representatives of the Supreme Command and not by the members of the Federal Secretariat for National Defense. In a sharp discussion of the session, Markovic gave way, so the Government members will take part in the session of the Federal Chamber today. If the present deputies try to go beyond the agreed scenario of the session, however, then the delegations of Bosnia-Hercegovina and Macedonia and the Federal Government will leave the Assembly hall, and Ante Markovic will resign. [end recording]

Government Prepares for 3-Month Moratorium

LD2307152491 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1409 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Belgrade, July 23 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Government has prepared a draft document on the functioning of the federation during the three-month moratorium which has been agreed on by all the republics.

The moratorium has been brokered by the European Community and it does not envisage any one of the republics undertaking unilateral measures to disrupt

Yugoslavia's legal order which had existed until the end of June when Slovenia and Croatia unilaterally declared independence.

The Federal Government's proposal will go into effect as soon as it is signed by the presidents of all six Yugoslav republics and the highest Federal authorities. Negotiations on the country's future, as envisaged by the agreement on the moratorium, are due to start on August 1.

The proposal envisages eleven joint functions in the country during the moratorium, as TANJUG has learned.

They are: market, monetary system, hard currency system and credit relations with foreign countries, income system and money transfers, customs system and non-tariff protection, the Federal budget, defence and security, foreign policy and judicature.

During the moratorium, the Yugoslav Government will draw up a list of the property owned by the federation, federal organs and organizations.

The government has also proposed an end to the "forming of new autonomous regions, changes of external borders, border regime, armed conflicts, and the forming of illegal armed formations" during the moratorium, as is set out in the document.

This would mean an end to hostilities and the 'withdrawal of arms and demobilization of additionally mobilized armed formations.'

It would also be necessary to ensure the overall implementation of existing regulations on the protection of freedoms and human rights and measures would be undertaken for the "de-blocking of the media."

Air Force Issues Statement on Shooting Incident

LD2307150191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1146 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Belgrade, 23 Jul (TANJUG)—The Air Force Command today reported that on the afternoon of Monday, 22 July, four Yugoslav Air Force planes were fired at near the village of Novi Cakovci.

In its statement the command said that the first two of the four aircraft, while doing routine tasks, were fired at from the ground at about 1415. The pilots failed to locate the spot from which they were attacked and returned to their home base. Upon landing, bullet holes and damage to both aircraft were identified. While flying over the same area at 1705, the other two aircraft were also fired at from a makeshift observation point and from a nearby wooded area. This time the pilots succeeded in identifying the location of the firing and responded with their weapons. A building was hit which, in light of the ensuing destruction, most probably housed a considerable amount of lethal devices, the Air Force Command said.

We wish to stress on this occasion that the Air Force has been acting in line with a statement made by the Air Force and Antiaircraft Defense Command on 12 July that its aircraft will not act first but will respond decisively to any attack against them.

Commander on Difficulty of Returning to Barracks

AU2307163491 Belgrade Radio Belgrade Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Danko Peric report from Knin]

[Excerpts] Major General Spiro Nikolic, commander of the Knin corps of the Yugoslav People's Army, told journalists today that the idea of returning soldiers to barracks means blood on the streets at the same time. Such an idea can only be born in the heads of monsters, according to the commander of the unit, which, as Nikolic said today, has constantly been occupying so-called (?crisis) positions. [passage omitted]

As Ilijas Miljanic, president of the Krajina trade unions, told journalists, this organization has taken the Croatian leadership to the International Court in The Hague. They did this because of the large number of dismissals that are handed out to Serbs every day and because of the various ways in which Serb workers are punished only because they belong to this nation or because they have not signed the declaration of loyalty to the republic. Those who have signed the declaration of loyalty are now being rewarded, according to Miljanic, by being sent to the front lines against the Serbs in the Serbian Autonomous Region of Krajina.

In the village of Vrebac where [names indistinct] were killed not long ago on the threshold of their house, which means they died like heroes, during a repeat attack last night members of the Ministry of Internal Affairs suffered losses that included three wounded. One member of the Ministry of Internal Affairs was captured. Villagers are claiming that the man who was captured was actually the organizer of the attack on Vrebac and in the killing of two of its prominent young residents.

A demand has come from Gospic for the release of the captured man (?because) he is an important person, otherwise the threat has been made that last night's mortar attack will be repeated.

Army Units Withdraw From Slovene Border Posts

LD2307162891 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1519 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Ljubljana, July 23 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav People's Army (JNA) units at the posts on the Italian border, in the Nova Gorica municipality, have been transferred to the command in Ajsevica without any problems, as assistant commander of the Ljubljana corps, Colonel Jovan Miskov told TANJUG today.

Miskov said he hoped the withdrawal of troops and equipment from the posts in the command of the border batallion in Tolmin would also be completed today.

The JNA is withdrawing from the Republic of Slovenia under a decision taken by the Yugoslav State Presidency last week.

Paper Reports Arms Smuggling to Slovenia, Croatia

LD2307224891 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2153 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Belgrade, July 23 (TANJUG)—Belgrade daily POLITIKA has learned that 16 ships with a cargo consisting of 35,000 tonnes of weaponry, sent from Lebanon, have entered the Adriatic Sea and were at the southernmost Yugoslav port of Bar.

Their papers which originate from Cyprus state that the goods were in transit, but the end destination was not stated. It is indicative, POLITIKA writes in its Wednesday issue, that the ships with arms shipments were to berth at some port in northern Adriatic, belonging to Slovenia and Croatia.

The Yugoslav customs administration did not deny this when asked about it by POLITIKA's journalists, but failed to say anything concrete about what seems to be most likely the biggest arms shipment to Yugoslavia. The journalists did however get access to numerous examples of illegal and 'legal' smuggling of arms into Croatia and Slovenia in the course of this and last year.

On January 29 last year, the vessel Lipa sailed from the Bulgarian port of Varna for Abu Dhabi and Alexandria. It carried 8 containers, with, as POLITIKA writes, Kalashnikov automatic rifles. However, Lipa sailed into the Croatian port of Rijeka on the night of February 2 and 3, and this was not officially registered anywhere.

On April 30 this year, the ship Susak brought from the Middle East allegedly 40 empty containers, although, as POLITIKA writes, it is a well-established fact that they, too, were loaded to the brim with Kalashnikovs.

On October 1990, across one of the border-crossings with Hungary, some 10,000 Kalashinkovs and two million rounds of ammunition in ten trucks with trailers arrived in Croatia. This was confirmed by the Hungarian Government.

The most sophisticated communication equipment, 412 in number, worth 4 million pounds, arrived from England to Slovenia, via Klagenfurt in Austria, by Dutch trucks on June 18 this year.

Three wagons of surface-to-surface missiles, writes POLITIKA, have arrived in the night of June 30 this year from Austria, and subsequently 'put to use of destroying armored Army units'. Two tonnes of pistols arrived to Klagenfurt from Spain. They were intended for Croatian police, but 'as far as is known did not reach the their final destination.'

POLITIKA states that 'perhaps under pressure of world public, the Austrians, too, realized that this was too much, because through their mediation arms have been massively funnelled to Yugoslavia by way of illegal channels from Germany and Czechoslovakia.'

Imports have for the most part been carried out by way of foreign trade firms such as Iskra-Komerc of Slovenia and Astra of Croatia. The pro forma invoices have, however, also been directly signed by Croatia's Foreign Ministry. POLITIKA illustrates this with an example of Novemeber 21 last year when 5,000 pistols and 5 million rounds of ammunition have been ordered.

Daily Says Economy in State of Total Collapse

LD2307113991 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0957 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Belgrade, July 22 (TANJUG)—Yugoslavia has for all intents and purposes already disintegrated, even before all its republics make this act formal, the Belgrade daily VECERNJE NOVOSTI writes today.

The price paid for the political insanity is not only reflected in the human lives lost but also in the total collapse of the Yugoslav economy, the daily says.

All financial flows have been totally blocked, the balance of payments has been reduced to an essential minimum, and there is a real danger that the flow of money among the republics could be broken off completely.

The country's monetary system, the only one that has functioned up until now, if only after a fashion, is now also in a state of advanced decay.

The federal budget is virtually crippled, as the republics and provinces have since mid-1990 retained for themselves income from taxes and customs duties which by law belong to the federal coffers, VECERNJE NOVOSTI says.

Banks have stopped paying out foreign currency from citizens' accounts, and the National Bank of Yugoslavia and the Federal Government have not yet come out with an official position on the issue. The federation guarantees the security of all foreign-currency savings, but no one knows who is the guarantor of the federation itself.

Pointing to the rate at which Yugoslavia's economic links with the rest of the world are being broken (the holding company Energoinvest has already lost about fifteen deals abroad), the daily says the virus of dissociation has afflicted the Yugoslav economy so badly that its effects can be felt in all areas.

There are countless examples of open robbery of the property of firms from 'other republics,' the daily says.

concluding that the picture is complete only when the almost total stoppage in the deliveries of raw materials is taken into account.

International

Austria Withdraws Troops From Border

LD2307161291 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1443 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Vienna, July 23 (TANJUG)—Austria has decided to withdraw its troops from the border with Yugoslavia, 'because there is an easing of tension in Slovenia,' as officially stated.

The withdrawal of 2000 Austrian Federal Troops and special air force units from the border area in the provinces of Styria and Carinthia will take place from July 25 to 31, according to an announcement published today by the Federal Ministry for National Defence.

The Austrian Army will keep one tank and one air force unit in the border areas of the provinces of Styria and Carinthia in the event that changes take place in Yugoslavia and their speedy deployment is necessary.

Some 7650 troops were temporarily stationed at the border. At the end of the first week in July, the first decrease of troops was effected when more than 4000 troops were withdrawn.

Slovenia

Drnovsek on Talks With Army on Recruits' Release

AU2307181691 Ljubljana Radio Slovenia Network in Slovene 1515 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Statement by Janez Drnovsek, member of the SFRY Presidency from Slovenia, at news conference in Ljubljana on 23 July—recorded]

[Text] My assessment of yesterday's [SFRY Presidency] session is that its most important achievement is the expansion of the monitoring mission [Drnovsek corrects himself] EC observers' mission to Croatia as well. This question is not as simple as it may seem, because initially this control was meant for and directed toward Slovenia alone, because it proceeded from the clashes in Slovenia and the cease-fire there. Croatia was mentioned in the EC memorandum only in terms of a possibility that the complete observers mission might also be extended to Croatia, and the instructions for the observers have so far been limited to Slovenia.

As early as at the Brioni meeting, Croatia demanded that the mission also include Croatia, but it was only our meeting, or accord, yesterday that granted a kind of consent by the Federation for the mission to include Croatia as well and that the EC should expand its role into Croatia. I think that this is an important achievement, because it is obvious that the patterns, that is, the methods of solving the crisis in Croatia used so far have brought no results.

Second, it is a pity that yesterday's session was burdened by these tragic events in Croatia and that we did not manage to conclude it, particularly concerning the third item, which involved agreement on the final denouement of the Yugoslav crisis, agreement on methods of this denouement and the way the EC can join it.

I hope that we shall continue with this part soon and reach necessary agreements, because the Brioni Declaration obliges us to begin the negotiations on 1 August.

Regarding the issues that were, shall I say, present outside the agenda, it is the question mentioned by [Slovene] President Kucan about the talks with Army representatives on implementing the Presidency decision on the Army's withdrawal from Slovenia. General Kadijevic and Admiral Brovet assured me that the Yugoslav People's Army is firmly resolved to realize the decision that the withdrawal of the Yugoslav People's Army should be carried out quickly, sooner than within the three-month deadline. They also called for cooperation from Slovene organizations, that is, the Slovene public, so there will be no unnecessary incidents.

Regarding, how shall I put it, the most topical question, the question of the Slovene recruits who are soldiers in the Yugoslav People's Army, I have been given the answer that their release will be possible in the coming days, that the complete procedure is being prepared, that is, is under way, and that this is in fact only a technical question, so all this can be carried out in an orderly and correct manner. Any possible delays that impatient recruits and their parents and relatives are so tense about, do not mean that this is not going to be done, but are only a question of this being actually prepared in the technical and organizational sense, so corresponding procedures are carried out, and that the complete, shall I call it, procedure involving those people who want to be released immediately would have to be carried out within not more than 15 days, that is, that they would come home within 15 days at the latest after the time when the decision is adopted.

Leaders Urge Cessation of Conflicts

LD2307161391 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1507 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Ljubljana, 23 Jul (TANJUG)—Slovenia's main interests are peace and the removal of all pretexts for conflicts. This was stressed at today's news conference given by Slovene President Milan Kucan and Janez Drnovsek, member of the SFRY Presidency.

Assessing the expanded session of the Federal Presidency held in Ohrid, Kucan and Drnovsek expressed the view that the conclusions from the session have made a

significant contribution to the creation of the basic preconditions for a peaceful resolution of the crisis.

Asked about a possible widening of conflicts in Croatia, Janez Drnovsek said that further armed hostilities in the Republic of Croatia would seriously endanger all of Yugoslavia.

For that reason, we in Slovenia are urging the cessation of all conflicts, which, as Drnovsek said, is impossible unless Serbia and Croatia reach an agreement.

Army Withdrawal Talks Continue in Zagreb

LD2307233891 Ljubljana Radio Slovenia Network in Slovene 2100 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Talks continued in Zagreb today between a delegation of the Republic of Slovenia and the Yugoslav Army, led by Miran Bogataj, deputy Slovene defense minister, and Lieutenant Colonel General Andrej Raseta. Representatives of the EC mission were also present. They primarily discussed the extent of the withdrawal of the Yugoslav Army from Slovenia and matters connected with the (?release) of servicemen from Slovenia who are in Yugoslav Army units, and of other members of the permanent complement.

The position of the Republic of Slovenia delegation was that all land and air forces, except for the part required for the unified control of airspace, must be included. Slovenia holds that there are no reasons for withdrawal of military, medical, and other similar establishments, because there services are used by numerous retired and other officers, who will remain in Slovenia.

The Yugoslav Army commission agreed in principle with the proposals, but will consider the proposal on the supervision of airspace and military medical organizations in conjunction with federal bodies. The Army also made withdrawal conditional on the previous return of material and other resources currently under the supervision of the Slovene Territorial Defense. Our side could not accept that, since financial and legal questions will be settled in accordance with the Yugoslav Presidency descision at the end of the three-month period.

The Slovene Republican commission also demanded an immediate start to the release of Slovene servicemen still on duty in the Army, as well as on carrying out other tasks connected with the release of permanent army personnel. The (?Army) commission believes this cannot be carried out within the three-month period. The Slovene commission, however, insisted the release of Slovene servicemen must start as soon as possible. The commissions ascertained that the withdrawal of troops from border guard posts is continuing. In the next [words indistinct] withdrawal will also start from smaller garrisons. They agreed that in the next [words indistinct] military helicopters and aircraft will also be withdrawn.

Croatia

Press Assesses Situation in Croatia

LD2307125991 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1106 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Belgrade, July 23 (TANJUG)—The Zagreb daily VJESNIK today carries reports of armed clashes in the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia, headlined in bold print: 'Blood bath marks beginning of decisive week in Slavonija', 'grenades sow death', 'murders and raids', 'pursuit of bandits'...

The daily, which appears in the Croatian capital, stresses that, in the clashes in Croatia's northeastern region of Slavonija and central region of Banija, 'Croatian police and guardsmen are fighting back at the terrorists... (who) are indiscriminate in their choice of targets'.

Terrorists is a term used by Croatian authorities and mass media to denote chiefly serbs in the republic with whom Croatian police and guardsmen have been engaged in fierce armed clashes for several months.

The Zagreb daily VECERNJI LIST writes today that the Yugoslav Army is 'delivering large quantities of weaponry to the terrorists...who are not particular in their choice of victims.'

'The worst blood bath so far' is the title in the Belgrade daily BORBA of the report from the battlefields in Croatia.

In its reports from the Banija region, BORBA writes that 'trenches between Serbs and Croats stretch to about 100 kilometres...and the presence of the Yugoslav Army is the only reason why bloodshed has not been worse'.

'Attacks by Croatian guardsmen repulsed', proclaims the headline of the report in the Belgrade daily POLITIKA on clashes in Banija.

The daily writes about 'attacks by Croatian police and guardsmen on units and officers of the Yugoslav Army', about 'Croatian police and guardsmen's surveillance and searches of Serbian houses', 'plantiig of explosives in Serbian homes in Zadar (a town on the Croatian section of the Yugoslav Adriatic coast)'...

'Banija will not fall', 'Serbian insurgents attack stronghold of Croatian guard', 'True war launched against Serbian people', 'Violence of Croatian police against soldiers', 'Ustashas demolish Serbian houses', are some of the titles in the Belgrade daily VECERNJE NOVOSTI.

In an article entitled 'To the bitter end', the Belgrade daily POLITIKA EKSPRES writes about an attack of 'crazed Ustasha assault troops on the Serb-populated village of Mirkovci' on Monday.

The daily writes about 'Ustashas looting Serbian houses...and forcibly mobilizing serbs for the Croatian guard'.

Ustashas were members of the Army of the quisling independent State of Croatia during World War Two.

Weekly Criticizes Actions of Authorities

LD2307151591 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1302 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Zagreb, July 23 (TANJUG)—A leading weekly in the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia has accused the ruling Croatian Demoratic Union of 'having managed to fall our with all Serbs, isolate Croatia and bring it to within the Serbian-army pincers - all in one year of its rule.'

The weekly DANAS notes in today's issue that the charisma of Croatian President Franjo Tudjman 'is suffering serious blows' and that it is 'hard to believe that it will be saved by Kohl or Vranitzky, because Croatia alone holds the keys to its destiny.'

The common denominator of a number of articles on the subject is criticism of the latest moves of the Croatian authorities.

'In contrast with the Slovenian polit-marketing, which managed to buy its way out of Yugoslavia by casualties in its brief war, a large number of casualties, long lines of refugees and burned villages in Croatia are all but in vain, due above all to a wrong policy,' says a story headlined, 'how the guardsmen die.'

The author criticizes Croatian special units for a 'complete lack of professionalism,' which he sees as most drastically reflected in a recent siege of a house with a group of Serbian citizens who barricaded themselves in. The incident took place in Osijek, the centre of Slavonia, the troubled northwest Croatian region with a mixed Croatian-Serbian population.

Analyzing the action, DANAS writes that it could be carried out more safely and simply, and it says how: 'One drives a tank truck with 10,000 litres of water to the house and lets the water into the cellar with the terrorists. The only thing one needs then is a 220 volt electric wire.'

In another story headlined, 'Own Goal of the Croatian Policy' the paper analyzes several statements by top Croatian leaders about a 'division of Bosnia-Hercegovina as the best solution of the Yugoslav crisis,' calling the statements 'clumsy.'

Under the heading 'Expert Opinion,' military analyst Ante Barisic warns that 'the united European approach towards the crisis in Yugoslavia no longer exists... Everybody seeks and gets its ally, thus helping to revive the old relations, in which the Balkan countries may become a small change in accountings between the mighty in Europe and the world.'

DANAS also publishes the attitudes of three prominent Croatian opposition leaders - Miko Tripalo, Bozo Kovacevic and Ivan Zvonimir Cicak.

'On the whole, the leading party shuts itself within its own ranks, which may prove fatal to Croatia and its defence,' points out Tripalo.

Cicak accuses Tudjman of 'having proclaimed himself the only criterion of Croatia's past, present and future, while manifesting only arrogance, scorn and hatred for all others.'

'The confusing and absurd moves of the authorities have left Croatia without allies both in and outside Yugoslavia, and its citizens in a state of quandary such as should not appear in a war situation,' says Kovacevic in the article headlined, 'Tudjman's hostages.

Papers See Forces Regrouping in Conflict

LD2307135591 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1207 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Belgrade, July 23 (TANJUG)—'We can now expect an offensive against Croatia's cities aimed at creating a war of global dimensions and destroying the economic potential of the republic,' the daily VJESNIK writes today.

The daily, published in the Croatian capital Zagreb, accuses Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic and the country's military leadership of 'stepping up the activity of the army and terrorists in Croatia.' The Croatian authorities use the term terrorists to describe armed Serbian peasants.

'While the international public is hesitating, the strategy of unrest is intended to secure the best possible positions ahead of the negotiations on peace which will be held by those who will have survived the war,' VJESNIK writes.

The Belgrade daily BORBA says the leadership of Slovenia is after the Yugoslav Presidency's decision on the withdrawal of the army from that republic 'even thinking about signing some kind of pact with Serbia,' which, Borba says, 'it has until recently called 'Slovenia's number-one natural enemy.'

'Slovenia's potentially closest and most' natural' ally, the neighbouring Republic of Croatia, has suddenly become a plague to be avoided at all costs,' Borba writes.

Pointing out that the 'Croatian leadership has not realized in time the illusive nature of its alliance with neighbouring Slovenia,' the daily says Zagreb is now 'paying for its inaccurate estimate with an extremely uncertain and unenvious position vis-a-vis Serbia and the Yugoslav People's Army (JNA).'

'Serbia has gained its strongest ally in the JNA,' Borba says, warning that 'making use of the strengthened position for greater-state expansionism would result in a universal tragedy.'

Croatia to Try Serb 'Terrorists'

LD2307214691 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Excerpt] At a regular news conference in the Croatian Assembly, Assistant Minister for Internal Affairs Milan Brezak announced that information will soon be published about involvement of Serbian institutions in terrorist activities in the Republic of Croatia. He also announced that a large number of terrorists will be put on trial, with evidence that will put to shame Serbia and the Yugoslav army. Jasenka Dudic is reporting:

[Begin recording] [Dudic] [words indistinct] Milan Brezak said that 63 members of the [Croatian] Ministry of Internal Affairs have died so far, and 199 members of the National Guard and Ministry of Internal Affairs have been wounded. Furthermore, 91 civilians sustained injuries, and 21 died. In the last two days we have wiped out, Brezak underlined, some 60 terrorists. We have reports that 110 wounded terrorists are in a hospital. So far, 112 terrorists have been caught and jailed. We expect, Brezak said, that criminal charges for the criminal acts of armed rebellion, terrorism, and war crimes against civilian population will be brought against them. When evidence found on them is presented, I believe that the blood of many generals will freeze, because they will see who attended Chetnik parades at which arms were given away and the tasks of toppling the constitutional system in Croatia, killing people, and destroying property were allocated.

Brezak today named only two persons: General Dusic Pekic and Jovan Kokot.

Talking about the trial of the 112 terrorists, Brezak said:

[Brezak] It will certainly show that the Serbian state leadership is discredited for waging terror, violence, and crimes. I must say that some evidence shows that there is a link between the Yugoslav army and the Serbian state in terrorist activity on the territory of the Republic of Croatia. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Serbia Waging 'Undeclared War' Against Croatia

LD2307160491 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1503 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Zagreb, July 23 (TANJUG)—At the Croatian parliament today it was said that Serbia was "waging an undeclared war" against this republic and that this was a war "for winning territories."

President of the Croatian Parliament's Human Rights Committee Neven Jurica said that "Serbia is being assisted by the Yugoslav army which is increasingly becoming a Serbian army."

He added that "unheard-of crimes" were being committed daily and that a genocide against the Croatian nation was in progress.

Parliament next heard individual accounts which presented assertions about the sufferrings of Croatian population in certain parts of this republic. It was especially said that the Croats in the province of Vojvodina, part of the Republic of Serbia, were exposed to "pressures and discrimination."

Parliamentary debate was one-dimensioned as representatives of Serbian people in Croatia were not participating in it and so were unable to present their views of the strained inter-ethnic relations that have in the past few weeks grown into fierce armed conflicts.

Road Situation Considerably Deteriorated

LD2307112391 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0937 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Belgrade, July 23 (TANJUG)—The situation on the roads in crisis regions of the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia has considerably deteriorated over the past few days, as learned in the Automobile Association of Yugoslavia.

The main road Karlovac-Duga Resa-Josipdol-Senj is still closed for traffic in Jospidol.

In the territory of Eastern Slavonija, traffic is closed on the following roads: Vinkovci-Brsadin-Vukovar, Vinkovci-Mirkovci-Stari Jankovci, Savras-Bijelo Brdo-Dalj, Laslovo-Markusica-Vinkovni, Osijek-Trpinja-Vukovar, and Osijek-Tenja.

The roads in Banija which lead from Sisak and Petrinja to Kostajnica, Dvor na Uni, Glina and Topusko are either closed to traffic or unsafe. This is also true for roads in the interior of northern Dalmatia, around Benkovac, Obrovac and Knin, and in the territory of Lika around Gracac, Donji Lapac and Titova Korenica.

Traffic is proceeding without much delay at border crossings. There are only delays of up to 30 minutes at the border crossing in Horgos for vehicles coming from Hungary.

Heavy Fighting Reported Near Sibenik

LD2407102691 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0924 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Text] Split, 24 Jul (TANJUG)—Armed clashes between the Krajina [Serbian populated region seeking independence from Croatia] formations and constables of the Croatian Interior Ministry [MUP] took place in the village of Plastovo near Bratiskovac, 20 kilometers north of Sibenik, at 0415 this morning.

According to the Sibenik police authorities, four constables were seriously wounded following an attack from automatic weapons on a police vehicle.

Armed clashes in this area with mixed Serbian and Croat population went on throughout the morning but there was a lull at about 1030. Members of the Krajina formations retreated to the village of Plastovo from

where columns of smoke can be seen. Strong MUP reinforcements which arrived in the area on board armored carriers have not been able to close in on the village. Firing has not been heard in the last hour from the hamlet of Dobrijevici either.

The entire area is under blockade from the Croatian police. Telephone lines have been cut. As far as we could learn, there is no army in this area nor has there been any evidence of movement by army vehicles. We were not able to find out if there were any injuries among the Krajian milita.

Knin Patrol Disappears Near Plitvice Lakes

AU2307163691 Belgrade Radio Belgrade Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Milan Martic, secretary of the Secretariat for Internal Affairs of Krajina, told journalists today that a patrol of two Knin militiamen disappeared this morning at 0400 [0200 GMT] at Breznik near the Plitvice lakes. A special unit of the Secretariat for Internal Affairs of Krajina set off in search of them and took part in an armed clash with a unit whose members were dressed in black shirts. Milan Martic claimed that this involved a black-shirted Ustasha unit like in the National Liberation War.

Martic said that the clash lasted a full two hours. There were no dead or wounded among the Knin special forces, Martic said but assumed that the black shirts had suffered some.

The two-member patrol of the Krajina Secretariat for Internal Affairs has not yet been found.

Mirkovci, Palace 'Terrorists' Attack Villages

LD2307075491 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 0700 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Excerpts] At 2330 [2130 GMT] last night, terrorists from Mirkovci again fired a barrage of shots and a grenade from a grenade-launcher at Vinkovci. During the night, there were also occasional bursts of gunfire in the town. We repeat that in yesterday's fighting with Chetnik outlaws, 11 members of the national guard, one policeman, and five citizens were killed. The extent of the losses on the side of the outlaws is not known, but clearly it is a matter of large-scale casualties. [passage omitted]

Outlaws from Palaca and Ada villages, in Dsijek municipality, last night attacked the Lastovo village. The shooting went on virtually the whole night, injuring six national guard members. They were injured by bomb fragments and were taken to Osijek hospital, where they were given the necessary aid, while the outlaws are obviously leaving their injured and dead at the battleground.

Osijek Garrison Statement on Palace, Laslovo

LD2307205691 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1804 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Excerpts] Osijek, 23 Jul (TANJUG)—In connection with last night's events in the village of Palace, the Osijek Garrison Command today issued the following statement:

"Via the public information media we received reports that in the early hours of 23 July an attack was begun by inhabitants of the village of Palace against the village of Laslovo. In view of interruptions on the telephone lines, we sent a reconnaissance patrol to the spot, which by direct investigation established the following:

At 0315 [0115 GMT] on 23 July, three anti-hail rockets were fired from the direction of the village of Laslovo toward the village of palace. An hour later an attack was stated by members of the National Guard, and local people, supported by two TAB [armored personnel carrier] army vehicles. In the execution of the attack, in addition to artillery weapons, missile launchers [raketni bacaci] and mortar launchers [minobacaci] were also used.

The Palace villagers withdrew toward the village of Korodje, while about 15 able-bodies villagers remained behind, and defended themselves until 0915 [0715 GMT], when a unit of the Yugoslav People's Army entered the village and separated the opposing sides. [passage omitted] During the attack, two members of the National Guard were killed and several people were injured, the statement released by the Osijek Garrison Command says in conclusion.

Tuzla Corps Denies Accusations Against YPA

LD2307172891 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1607 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Tuzla, 23 Jul (TANJUG)—The Tuzla Corps Information Office has been authorized to make the following statement:

At a news conference in Vinkovci on 23 July Yugoslav People's Army [YPA] units were again accused of being responsible for the casualties sustained on 22 July in clashes between the forces of the Croatian Internal Affairs Ministry [MUP] and the National Guard Corps on one hand and the population of the village of Mirkovci on the other. The army is accused of opening fire at the MUP and National Guard units with artillery weapons and from aircraft. This is a blatant lie from the stockpile of psychological-propaganda activities engaged in by the Croatian media and the republic's authorities.

For the sake of the truth and objective information we wish to point out the following:

First, as already reported, the attack on the village of Mirkovci was started by the forces of the MUP and the

National Guard corps of the Republic of Croatia and armed civilians. The attack was preceded by fierce firing from grenade launchers.

Second, the sole task of the unit from the Vinkovci garrison deployed yesterday was to separate the warring sides and prevent further bloodshed without the use of weapons.

Third, contrary to what was said at the news conference, the Air Force was not used during the clashes.

Fourth, it is a tendentious lie to say that the MUP and National Guard Corps losses were caused by the action of the YPA units and the Air Force.

Fifth, despite the YPA units' neutral conduct, the forces of the MUP and civil protection surrounded the barracks and military facilities were fired at from a grain silo. In response the Vinkovci garrison command issued an ultimatum to the commander of the National Guard Corps to stop firing and withdraw his forces from around the barracks.

In reaction to a cease-fire breach the army, as a warning, fired five missiles that exploded outside the village in nearby fields, killing and injuring no one. At the same time two military aircraft flew over Vinkovci but did not open fire.

The cease-fire was used to evacuate the dead and injured by both sides.

We wish to stress once again that the YPA units will in future try to prevent clashes between the warring sides and that they will fire only in response to direct attacks.

Statement on 'Barbaric' Acts

LD2307163191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1158 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Tuzla, 23 Jul (TANJUG)—The Information Service of the Tuzla Yugoslav People's Army [YPA] Corps informs the public in today's statement that a total of 13 military apartments have been broken into in an unnumbered building in Juraj Dalmatinac Street. About 1400 yesterday, three persons in the uniform of the Croatian Ministry of Internal Affairs [MUP] reserve went from one apartment to the other and banged on the doors. In the apartments where they found the occupants at home, they burst in without explanation or warrant, and carried out a search; and where the occupants were absent, they broke down doors, carried out a search, and carried away everything of value. They even carried away a privately owned small caliber rifle from one officer's apartment.

The head of the Vinkovci MUP, the statement says, was immediately informed of the vandalism and housebreaking in the military housing. He declared that he was aware of this and that he had sent to the spot eight of his men who would allegedly protect the property and family members of the military personnel. However, at 1635 the MUP head informed the commander of Vinkovci Garrison that the threat from the MUP staff to the occupants and property in the aforementioned street had come about because shots had been fired from the building at members of the MUP. These, the information service of Tuzla Corps asserts, are "notorious lies and deceit aimed at deceiving the public and concealing their true intentions".

The statement from the Information Service of the Tuzla YPA Corps alleges that the same day, sniper fire was opened up against one of these apartments from the Vinkovci MUP building: three shots hit the water boiler in the bathroom while the owner of the apartment was shaving. Traces of the impact from a firearm are evident on the facade of the building. After the intervention of the Garrison command, the VInkovci MUP assumed the obligation of guarding the building, family members, and the property of military personnel. The next few days will show how this promise will be fulfilled, while various forms of duress and abuse against military personnel in garrisons in Eastern Slavonija are continuing with undiminished harshness, the statement by the Information Service of the Tuzla YPA Corps says.

Attacks on Population, YPA in Croatia Reported

LD2307163291 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1538 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Osijek, July 23 (TANJUG)—Units of the Yugoslav People's Army (YPA) today entered the village of Palace near the town of Osijek (in the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia) where battles were fought last night between members of the Croatian police and Croatian guard on one side and armed villagers of Serbian nationality on the other.

The village of Palace is one in a series of Serb-populated places in Slavonia, Baranja and western Srem in the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia in which battles have been waged for days.

YPA units are trying to prevent an escalation of conflict.

Croatian Assistant Interior Minister Milan Brezak said that the inhabitants of the Serbian village of Palace had attacked the neighbouring Croatian settlement of Laslovo in which members of the Croatian Guard were stationed.

The YPA garrison in Osijek has said that the conflict arose after anti-hail rockets were fired at the Serbian village which was then entered by the Croatian guard and three houses were set on fire.

An explosive device was thrown into the compound of the Osijek garrison last night.

The YPA announced today that members of the Novi Sad corps had responded with heavy artillery fire after armed groups attacked with machine gun and mortar fire soldiers guarding the bridge linking Serbia and Croatia over the Danube at Ilok.

The YPA announced today that 13 apartments in Vinkovci (Slavonia) belonging to the YPA have been robbed. The robberies, searches, looting and shooting up of building facades were carried out by the Croatian police.

The local police chief admitted responsibility for the act, but said that shots had been fired at the police from the YPA apartment buildings. The YPA denied the accusations.

The Air Force Command said that four YPA planes have been attacked. Two YPA planes were attacked in the area of Cakovci (Croatia) and both sustained damages. In the second attack, the YPA planes returned fire and destroyed the bulding from which they had been attacked.

Serbia

Socialists View Opposition's Partial Boycott

LD2307181691 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1735 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Belgrade, July 23 (TANJUG)—The ruling Socialist Party of Serbia (SPS) assessed the decision of the two leading Serbian opposition parties—the Serbian Renewal Movement [SRM] and the Democratic Party [DS]—to partially boycott the work of the republican parliament, as an undemocratic act.

The head of SPS group of deputies, Radoman Bozovic, told a news conference today that parliamentary life presumed that the minority might not set ultimatums to impose its will upon the majority.

Commenting the partial walk-out of the opposition, Bozovic said this could not be described as a parliamentary crisis since not all opposition parties left the parliament.

Bozovic said that the SRM and DP are boycotting the parliament because their demand for the forming of a new government was not accepted, adding that the opposition wanted to make a short cut to power, evading regular elections.

Serbian Parties To Boycott Legislative Work

LD2307181391 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1729 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Belgrade, July 23 (TANJUG)—The two leading opposition parties in Serbia, the Serbian Renewal Movement (SRM) and the Democratic Party (DS), will not take part in the republican parliament's law-making work as of today, except in those activities which are relevant to the state and national interests of Serbia and the Serbian people, the heads of deputies' groups of these two parties, Slobodan Raketic (SRM) and Dragoljub Micunovic (DP), told a news conference today.

Raketic and Micunovic said that the reason for this decision was that their proposal on the forming of a government of patriotic unity and democratic reconstruction of the republic was not accepted during the recent talks with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.

Micunovic said that a radical cut was necessary in the present situation, that is, a government of national salvation which would be made up by a neutral and reputable person, trusted by the people, and the ministers would elected solely by their competence, regardless of their party affiliation.

However, the opposition was only offered a reconstruction of the cabinet. We no longer want to disturb the work of the parliament and neither are we willing to carry the responsibility for bad laws since our proposals and arguments, because of the outvoting in parliament, do not have a chance to be taken into account, Micunovic said.

We do not want to bear responsibility for the work of the parliament when we are not taking part in the decision-making, Raketic said. He also pointed out that the SRM does not want a non-party member to head the government. He also said that the ruling Socialist Party of Serbia (SPS) should not have the majority in the government, when this is the case in parliament.

Asked about the opposition's stand on calls for a boycott of the army, Micunovic said that, at present, the Yugoslav People's Army was preventing a large-scale civil war, but he added that its engagement should remain controlled by civiiian authorities.

The representatives of the SRM and DS today announced the possibility of forming a shadow government and passing of alternative laws. They also said that the Serbian opposition would soon set out a proposal for the settlement of the Yugoslav state crisis.

Assembly Adopts Law on Language Use

LD2307194491 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0947 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Summary] Belgrade, 23 Jul (TANJUG)—The seventh extraordinary session of the Serbian Assembly opened with a discussion on the draft law on the official language in use in the Republic of Serbia today. Following a short debate, the Assembly endorsed this law.

"The Serbo-Croat language, which is in official use in the Republic of Serbia, will also be called the Serbian language when it represents the Ekavian and Ijekavian dialects of the Serbian language. This is one of the most important novelties in the law on the official language. The Serbian Assembly adopted the law today.

"The introduction of a new term, at the proposal of the Serbian government and on the basis of discussion at previous assembly sessions, does not contradict the term used in the [SFRY] constitution: the Serbo-Croat language. This term does not deprive citizens who are not Serbs (Croats and Muslims) of their rights, because they are not obliged to say they use the Serbian language.

Furthermore, by citing both Ekavian and Ijekavian dialects of the Serbian language, the law does not prejudge which will be used.

"According to the new law on the official language, the Cyrillic alphabet is in use in Serbia, and the Latin alphabet will be used in a manner described by the law. For instance, names of enterprises, road signs on international roads and the like, can be written only in the Latin alphabet.

"Regarding languages of nations and nationalities, the law stipulates that names of places and texts are written below or to the right of names and texts in Serbian. Geographical notions and proper names cannot be replaced by names in languages of nationalities, but are written in accordance with the grammar of the language in question. For instance, the Hungarian name Ujvidek cannot be put below the sign Novi Sad, written in the Cyrillic alphabet, but only the Serbian name in the Latin alphabet. Before this regulation was adopted, a tumultuous discussion erupted, because Hungarian deputies believed that it is meaningless to write Serbian name in Hungarian transliteration, and they could not see who could be against the introduction of other languages as official languages.

"The law foresees that courts of first instance carry out trials in Serbian or in a minority language officially used by a relevant court."

In the afternoon, the Assembly adopted a law on territorial organization and local self-management. According to this law, Serbia will be divided into 172 municipalities. Autonomous provinces and the city of Belgrade will form special territorial units.

"According to this law, the adjective 'Titov' is dropped from names of all towns in Serbia. Hence, from now on, there is only Uzice, Mitrovica, Vrbas etc, instead of Titovo Uzice, Titova Mitrovica, Titov Vrbas, etc.

"The Assembly will continue its work tomorrow."

Opposition Parties Plan To Leave Assembly

AU2307154891 Belgrade Radio Belgrade Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Radovan Pantovic report]

[Text] [words indistinct] and of the Serbian Renaissance Movement, Dragoljub Micunovic and Slobodan Rakitic, held a news conference and announced that the opposition will leave the Serbian Assembly.

[Pantovic] The announced boycott of the Assembly can nevertheless be deemed to be limited, because the announcement of the Democratic Party and the Serbian Renaissance Movement says that due to the present situation of Serbia and the Serbian people, the opposition will take part in the Assembly's work whenever essential state and national interests are involved. The reasons for such a move by the opposition are, as Dragoljub Micunovic put it, unsuccessful negotiations with the president of the republic about the creation of a coalition [koncentracioni] government or a government of national salvation. The work done by the government and the Republican Assembly so far does not give any guarantee for solving the crisis and therefore, Micunovic said, our idea was to form a government of patriotic unity that will be headed by a man who has a high standing among the people and does not lean toward one party. This person, as well as most of the ministers, should be politically neutral and the main criterion for choosing them should be professional. According to Micunovic, the reply to this proposal was an offer to reshuffle the present cabinet. Our motive, however, Micunovic pointed out, was not to gain ministerial posts, but represent the interests of the citizens of Serbia.

Slobodan Rakitic said that at this crucial and dramatic political moment, all responsibility is borne by the president of the republic, the government, and the Assembly of Serbia, that is, the Socialist Party of Serbia. Rakitic pointed out that Serbia needs a radical democratic change, but with a new government, because this government as it is and this kind of [words indistinct] cannot realize such changes.

Replying to the question of what the opposition's next moves will be, Micunovic said that the opposition parties will try to continue to be as useful as possible. A shadow government may be formed, and high-quality teams of experts will be formed for economic, cultural, military, and political questions. The opposition will commit itself to drafting alternative law proposals and will soon offer a platform for solving the Yugoslav crisis. It was said that (?in this respect) the opposition will advocate a peaceful solution proceeding from the principle of self-determination of every people.

The announcement on walking out of the Assembly has so far been signed by the deputies of the Democratic Party and the Serbian Renaissance Movement and it will be open to other opposition parties as well.

Use of Hungarian Place-Names Banned

LD2307175291 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1600 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Excerpt] The Serbian Assembly has banned the use of names of towns in Hungarian. Szilveszter Varga, a colleague on the local radio in Vjvidek—for we shall carry on using this name [Serbo-Croatian name is Novisad]—reports;

[Varga] The Serbian Assembly took a discriminatory measure by adopting the law on the official use of language and writing. Although the Hungarian deputies strongly opposed the adoption of the bill, they were no match for (Milan Parosky) and (Voiclav Sesei), Chetnik voivode and the socialist choire on their side.

The law bans the official use of Hungarian Geographical names and only allows the minorities to write Serbian names according to their own spelling. [passage omitted]

Jovic Comments on Defense of 'Serbian Nation'

LD2307225591 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2033 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Belgrade, 23 Jul (TANJUG)—The orientation that problems should be resolved by peaceful means is based on the conviction that the arguments are on our side, and the main one is that everything should be resolved on the basis of the principle of the self-determination of nations. If this were applied to the Serbian nation living outside the territory of the Republic of Serbia as well, like everyone else of course, we would be able to ensure all its rights by peaceful means. We have no other aspirations.

This was stressed by Serbian Socialist Party President Borisav Jovic in an interview given this evening to Studio B independent television.

If these issues are resolved by force, Jovic went on, the Serbian nation would be the most threatened, because it is dispersed throughout the territories of the other republics.

Our approach in the defense of the Serbian nation is that we have the defense force of the country, the Yugoslav People's Army, which is obliged to ensure the equality of all nations. It is, therefore, obliged to defend the Serbian nation from aggression, if it is exposed to it, as it is at present in certain parts of the country. In practical terms this policy is seen to be good. Another factor, and the republican constitution commits us to this, is assistance to the Serbian nation outside Serbia for their self-defence in every respect—material, political, and cultural. The third factor is the strengthening of the defense force of the republic itself, which we are doing by strengthening the legal forces of territorial defense, Borisav Jovic stressed.

Government Opposes Call For Guard Force

LD2307165491 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1457 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 23 Jul (TANJUG)—The government of the Republic of Serbia today recommended to the People's Assembly not to endorse a proposal on the formation of the Serbian Guard, drafted by deputies of the Serbian Renaissance Movement [SPO], Mihajlo Markovic and Slobodan Raketic.

Recalling that the law on national defense, which is passing through the assembly, states that the Territorial Defense is a part of the SFRY armed forces, the government in its reply noted that the republican constitution recognizes republican armed forces, and not a Serbian Guard as a nonparty army which would be under the supervision of representatives of Serbian political parties and the party in power.

The government further notes solutions contained in a draft law on defense which recognize as legitimate forces the Yugoslav People's Army armed formations, Territorial Defense, and the Police. Other armed formations not envisaged by the constitution and law, are not permitted, the government states.

It also noted that competent bodies of the Republic of Serbia are regularly following and assessing the situation in the country, and especially the status of Serbs in Yugoslavia living outside the Republic of Serbia. Lately, their status has been endangered by the illegal proclamation of the independence of the Republic of Serbia stresses, competent republican bodies are prepared to make relevant decisions on armed forces of the Republic of Serbia. [passage omitted]

'Chetnik Reservists' Deploy in Kosovo

AU2307212391 Zagreb Radio Croatia in Albanian 2045 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] At about 2130 [1930 GMT] yesterday evening, armed reservists disembarked from a bus in the village of Cubrel near Skenderaj [Srbica] and positioned themselves in the hills. However, observers in the village noticed them, the entire village was mobilized in a short time, and families living near the hills were evacuated. The Chetnik reservists, after noticing that they would encounter resistance, withdrew at about midnight, and retreated in the direction of the village of Suhodoll, which is inhabited by Serbs and Montenegrins. For this reason, the inhabitants of Drenica are asked to sharpen their vigilance, because the danger of a possible Chetnik attack is increasing every day.

After the raids and beatings suffered in various border villages such as Smolice, Korenice, Brovine, Batush, and Ponoshec, 50 policemen armed to the teeth, with motor vehicles of various kinds, raided the houses of Bajram Shabani, Ekrem Sabriu, and Tahir Dervishi in the village of Babai i Bokes this morning, seriously maltreating members of their families.

Bosnia-Hercegovina

Izetbegovic 'Not Satisfied' With Ohrid Session

LD2307155891 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1353 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Sarajevo, 23 Jul (TANJUG)— I am not satisfied with yesterday's meeting in Ohrid, Bosnia-Hercegovina Presidency President Alija Izetbegovic, stated today at a news conference.

It cannot be said that nothing was achieved. An agreement was reached about a statement on a peaceful denouement of the crisis, about the committment to peace on the part of all participants in the meeting, at least verbally, although it is certain that many people who were seating there do not care for peace. But they signed the declaration. It would be a different story if one

were to ask how the declaration should be implemented. We should have made decisions about how to translate the fancy declarations into practical measures. Three sets of practical measures were, naturally, discussed: disarming of paramilitary formations, demobilization of the reserve force of the Croatian police, and the Army's withdrawal into barracks.

The meeting, as you all know, concentrated on the first item on the agenda—the situation in Croatia, where shots are being fired now. When peace was discussed, we had in mind above all the stabilization of the situation in flashpoints of crisis, which erupted throughout Croatia.

Tudjman was at the meeting until 2000 (1800 GMT). There is another very important detail about this. Around 1930 (1730 GMT yesterday), Tudjman received news that shots were being fired throughout Croatia, in—as he put it—some 10 places. He linked that with today's [as received] session and he was convinced that the shooting was prearranged to exert pressure on those attending the session and Croatia, and he abruptly decided to leave. He left around 2000 when agreement on the declaration, in particular the order in which practical measures should be taken, was not yet reached.

Asked to explain why Tudjman and Mesic had not signed the Ohrid Declaration, Izetbegovic said: "We insisted that this peace declaraton—it is in fact a proclamation—should be accompanied by certain measures, otherwise there was no point in adopting it. Of course, reference was made to the three measures. They implied: the disarming of paramilitary units, the demobilization of the reserve forces of, above all, the Croatian Police, and the withdrawal of the Army to barracks. The problem arose over the chronology of measures and their implementation. From the Croatian viewpoint, these three measures should be carried out concurrently or successively [as received]. But from the viewpoint of the rest of us, who saw this as an unrealistic demand, the first two measures should be completed first, thus creating conditions for the Army's withdrawal to barracks. Mesic and Tudjman did not agree. They demanded that the Army return to barracks without any delay and directly because they think, and I do not agree with them in this case, that the Army's urgent return to barracks would be a rapid step toward peace.

The majority, I among them, disagreed with this, and herein lies the problem. For that reason those two did not sign a declaration on peace, which they in fact endorsed.

Asked about the purpose of his visit to the United States, Alija Izetbegovic said that the visit will be very short, officially two-three days, but the program will be packed.

The purpose of the visit was to affirm Bosnia-Hercegovina, that is, to arouse interest of the international community in this republic. As you know, Izetbegovic said, the situation is worsening dramatically. There are plans to divide Bosnia. I believe that international factors can do a lot to prevent this. They should be alerted to the fact that any attempt to divide Bosnia would lead to direct interethnic conflicts in Bosnia-Hercegovina with unforseeable consequences. That conflict would certainly turn into an all-Yugoslav, and possible European war. A whole series of flashpoints of crisis would be activated. Some believe that there are 14 flashpoints of crisis in Europe. It could happen that history repeats itself.

It was revealed before that I shall visit America at the invitation of a group of U.S. businessmen from Los Angeles, some of them of Yugoslav origin. This shows that talks will concentrate on economic and financial issues, Izetbegovic said.

Croat Leader in Republic Views Ohrid Meeting

AU2307210391 Sarajevo Radio Sarajevo Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] The first condition for a resolution of the crisis in (?Bosanska) Krajina is [words indistinct]. This was stated by Stjepan Kljujic, (?Croatian Democratic Community leader in) Bosnia- Hercegovina. Expressing dissatisfaction particularly because the Ohrid session did not discuss the situation in Slavonia, Kljujic said that it was obvious that some people strive to (?spread) the war conflict (?in Croatia).

The Croatian Democratic Community is (?resolutely) against the withdrawal of the Yugoslav People's Army from Slovenia because, as Kljujic said, this (?means a strengthening of) the strivings whose aim is to create a Yugoslavia, even if in a truncated form, which would (?be dominated by) Serbia.

At the same time, the Croat Democratic Community leader for Bosnia-Hercegovina said that the units of (?the 14th Corps) of the Yugoslav People's Army (?should be stationed) in Mostar, without anybody asking the (?Bosnia-Hercegovina) Government for permission. Stjepan Kljujic expressed his satisfaction at the fact that foreign observers will come to Slavonia [words indistinct].

Croats Oppose Army Moves in Republic

LD2307131191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1123 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Sarajevo, July 23 (TANJUG)—The Croatian Democratic Union (CDU), one of the three parties which make up the ruling coalition in the Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina, came out today against the relocation of a Yugoslav People's Army (JNA) corps from Slovenia to Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Stjepan Kljujic, leader of the party, which rallies Croats living in Bosnia-Hercegovina, said at a news conference the transfer of the corps was a sign that someone's wish for the creation of a greater Serbia was being fulfilled.

The Yugoslav Presidency on Thursday last week decided that both JNA corps currently in Slovenia should be

pulled out of that republic and transferred to Bosnia-Hercegovina and Serbia, respectively.

Bosnia-Hercegovina is a republic with an extremely dispersed ethnic composition, the biggest nations being the Moslems, Serbs and Croats, in that order.

Kljujic, also a member of the republican presidency, expressed dismay over the failure of yesterday's enlarged meeting of the Yugoslav Presidency in Ohrid to deal with the situation in Croatia, where serious fighting is in progress between Croatian police and national guard and the local Serb populations and their armed units.

The fact that the subject was not discussed seems to point to the existence of a tacit agreement that the civil war should be continued, he said.

Kljujic argued that the JNA was involved in the clashes in Croatia and provocateurs infiltrated in order to perpetuate the war and prevent the crisis from being resolved in a peaceful manner.